HORROR COMICS SPECIAL
幻獣の星座 2
秋乃茉莉
幻獣の星座2
Genjyu no Seiza
Akino Matsuri Present
秋乃茉莉
HORROR COMICS SPECIAL
秋田書店

Akino Matsuri

秋乃茉莉

Born on the 7th of July.

Birthplace ie Tokyo. Now living in Yokohama.

I can't believe we're at Volume 2 already.

Damn!

Hanuman's features are getting smaller.

Ah well. It happens.

Whatever....

Cover Art Direction by Kazuhiro Tada
Cover Design by Hitomi Okada

Genjyū no Seiza Akino Matsuri presents

秋乃茉莉

2

幻獣の星座

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★ [illegible]

Story 6
Beyond the Door

THAT ORIHIME WOMAN WAS A REAL SPIRIT POWER SPECIALIST
THAT WAS DAMN COOL! WERE YOU REALLY POSSE-SSED!?
KAMI-SHINAA! WE SAW YOU ON THE SPIRIT SPECIAL!!
WAIT.. DID THE TV STATION MAKE YOU DO THAT?
EE~H DID THEY!?
WAS IT HYPNO-TISM?
BUT DID YOU GET TO TALK TO KURUMI-CHAN?
HA HA HA HA~

I'M HOME
WELCOME BACK, FUU-CHAN
TODAY WE HAD A CALL FROM KAWAMURA-SAN'S MOTHER
KAWA-MURA? WHO'S THAT?
YOU KNOW, THE ONE WHO LIVED NEXT TO US IN F-CITY
AAAH! SOU-CHAN'S MOTHER
SHE ALSO ASKED ME ABOUT SOME TV THING...
NOT AGAIN
?
Kept it a secret from her
SO? WHAT DOES SHE WANT THIS TIME?
DON'T DRINK TOO FAST, HIGH PRIEST
OF COURSE, SHE INVITED YOU TO F-CITY TO PLAY WITH HIM

FOR REAL!?
THE REASON WE WERE FORCED TO MOVE FROM F-CITY WAS BECAUSE OF THAT LADY
FULUTO !!
KAWAMURA-SAN SAID SHE INQUIRED AT EACH SCHOOL YOU TRANSFERRED TO UNTIL SHE FINALLY GOT THROUGH TO OUR HOUSE
KEH
WHAT IS IT NOW?
SOU-ICHI -KUN..
HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET YOU AGAIN, SHE SAID
..SOU-CHAN..!?

FULITO -KUN!!
KIN
GONG
I SEE YOU'VE FINALLY ARRIVED
COME ON UP
'SUP
SHE'S GROWN OLD
HAVE A SEAT
I'LL GET YOU A DRINK
'KAY
AND SOU-CHAN?
IS HE UPSTA-IRS?
SOU.
SOU-ICHI IS..
UU.
WH-WHAT'S WRONG!?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO SOU-CHAN!?
ACTUA-LLY.. SOUICHI WAS
EVER SINCE YOU MOVED FROM THIS CITY

HE'S BEEN CONFINING HIMSELF IN HIS ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR
HE DOESN'T EVEN GO TO SCHOOL ANY-MORE
HAS HE BECOME
A HERMIT!?
(WITHDRAWN FROM SOCIETY)
ONCE, HIS TEACHER TRIED TO FORCE HIS WAY INTO THE ROOM, BUT HE PUT UP A BIG STRUGGLE
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS A KIND AND DOCILE CHILD BEFORE
EVER SINCE, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIS FACE FOR CLOSE TO FIVE YEARS
F-FIVE YEARS!?
WHAT ABOUT FOOD?
I PUT IT IN THE FRIDGE IN THE HALLWAY OF THE SECOND FLOOR
FROM THE BEGINNING, THE TOILET AND BATH WERE ON THE 2ND FLOOR
2 BOTTLES OF COLA
THIS WEEK'S MANGA
THE LATEST ALBUM FROM ALH.
AND IF HE'D WANT A CHANGE OF CLOTHES, A BOOK OR A NEW GAME, HE'D LET ME KNOW BY E-MAIL
TODAY I SAW FUU-CHAN ON TV
BUT. THE LATEST E-MAIL
WAS THIS.
FOR MANY YEARS HIS ONLY MESSAGES WERE TO ASK FOR NECESSARY LIVING PROVI-SIONS
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME HE'S ACTUALLY SPOKEN.

PLEASE, FUUTO -KUN!!
PLEASE MEET SOUICHI
AND.. BRING HIM BACK OUT-SIDE
EH..!?
SO.. MAYBE IF IT'S YOU, FUUTO -KUN..
THAT CHILD WILL LET YOU INTO HIS ROOM..
OKAY, OKAY!!
IF IT'LL HELP, I'LL MEET HIM!!
FUUTO -KUN!!
W-..
WAIT A MINUTE
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT
I'M NOT SOME KIND OF COUN-SELOR..
AS THE HIGH PRIEST WHO GUIDES HUMAN BEINGS, DO YOU PLAN TO ABANDON A FRIEND IN NEED?
HIGH PRIEST

DON DON
SOU -CHAN
IT'S FULITO
FULITO KAMISHINA. I USED TO LIVE NEXT DOOR
IT'S JUST TO MEET HIM. NO MORE THAN THAT
!!
DAMN THIS IS TROUBLE-SOME

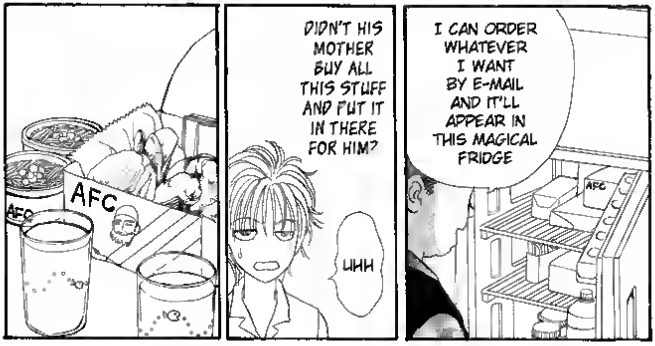
DAN
SOU-CHAN, I'M GONNA COME IN
NO... NO WAY!!
N-NO- IT'S NOTHING
FUUTO -KUN!?
HIGH PRIEST!?
(1 TATAMI MAT = 174CM X 261CM OR 4'2 X 10'2 INCHES)
I'M SURE SOU-CHAN'S ROOM WAS ABOUT 8 TATAMI MATS IN SIZE--
WHAT'S WRONG!? FUUTO -KUN!

KCHI
HMM
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A BACK-DROP
!S THIS ALSO A TV SET?
WHAT THE-
WH WHERE'S THIS!?
YOU ROGUE!!
I'LL FIGHT YOU!
.YOU
HE HAS A GUN!
NO! WAIT!
YOU'RE FUU-CHAN?
UWAAAA~~

SOU-CHAN!?
Y-YOURE..
SORRY I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN ENEMY SOLDIER
Heh!?
PD

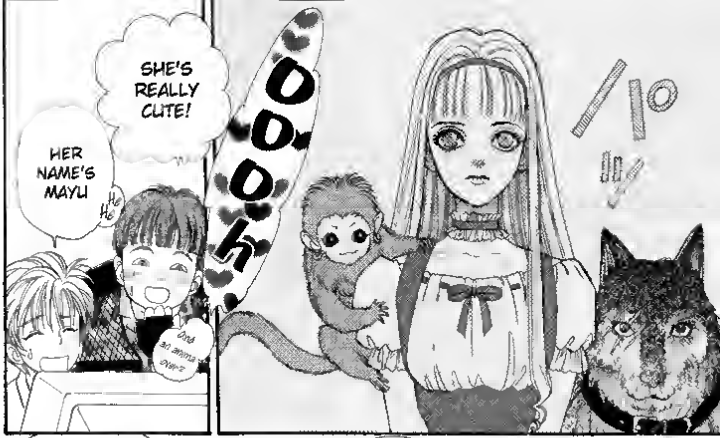
BY THE WAY, FUU-CHAN, YOU WERE ON A TV SHOW, RIGHT? 'SPIRIT COLLOSEUM' WAS IT?
I IMME-DIATELY KNEW IT WAS YOU. YOU WERE ALWAYS VERY INSPIRATIONAL
AAH. THIS WAY
WHERE'S THE TV, ANYHOW?
FUU-CHAN, YOU'VE GROWN A LOT
Y-YEAH. WELL..
Y-YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH SOU-CHAN.
HAHAHA I GUESS I'VE ONLY GROWN FATTER

DAMN COOL!! THIS LOOKS JUST LIKE A SECRET BASE FROM A SCI-FI MOVIE
FROM THE GROUND WAVES I CAN GET SATELITE TV AND EVEN 'SKY PERFECTV'
(CABLE TV IN JAPAN)
SEE
COME TO THINK OF IT... THE CITYSCAPE I SAW BEFORE
LOOKED JUST LIKE IT WAS FROM SOU-CHAN'S FAVORITE R P G
(ROLE PLAYING GAME)
AH. YEAH..
HE'S CALLED GARUDA
THIS IS IT BIRD YOUR PET, FUU-CHAN!?
PLEASED TO MEET YOU
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED TO THIS ROOM!?
D'YOU WANT A DRINK?
I ALSO HAVE SNACKS
HEEH HIS FEATHERS ARE PRETTY
CPD

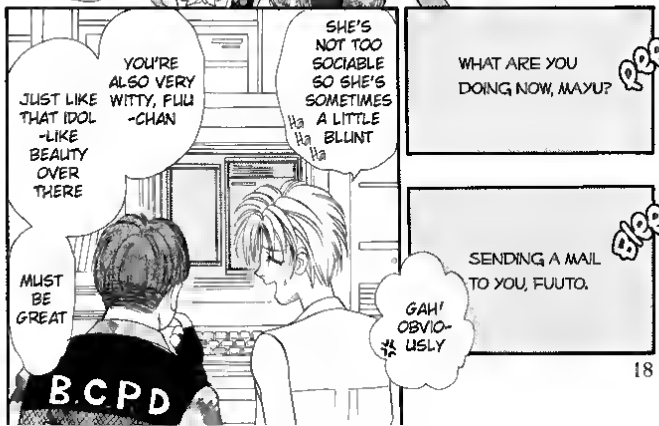

AFC
AFC
DIDN'T HIS MOTHER BUY ALL THIS STUFF AND PUT IT IN THERE FOR HIM?
UHH
I CAN ORDER WHATEVER I WANT BY E-MAIL AND IT'LL APPEAR IN THIS MAGICAL FRIDGE
AFC
HMMM~~ LATELY I'VE BEEN SURFING THE NET
WHAT ELSE DO YOU DO EVERY DAY OTHER THAN PLAY GAMES AND WATCH TV, FUU-CHAN?

AND THEN THE SITE WILL BE FORCED TO SHUT DOWN
KU KU KU KU
ONE HOMEPAGE I WENT TO WAS RUINED BY IT. IT WAS DAMN COOL
I GO TO ALL SORTS OF HOMEPAGES AND SPAM INSULTING MESSAGES ALL THE CHAT ROOMS AND BULLETIN BOARDS
EVERY TIME I DO THAT, THE REST WILL GET PISSED AND FLAME BACK

LET ME TRY TO SEND HER A MAIL
I'LL BORROW THIS, 'KAY?
AAH..B-BUT I HAVE A FRIEND WHO'S AN EXPERT
WHAT'S YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS, FUU-CHAN?
I..UMM DON'T HAVE A PC AT HOME
WELL.. NOT REALLY
THIS IS FUUTO I'M AT MY FRIEND SOUICHI-KUN'S HOUSE NOW. IF YOU'RE FREE, PLEASE REPLY TO THIS ADDRESS.
YOU MEAN ONE OF YOUR CLASS-MATES?
pi
Send
HELLO FUUTO. NICE TO MEET YOU SOUICHI.
OOH? AN IMAGE'S ATTACHED
LET'S DOWN-LOAD IT
BEEP
OH!
A QUICK REPLY
New Ma


SHE'S REALLY CUTE!
HER NAME'S MAYU
He He
And so anime over?
OOOH
/10

THEY'RE ALSO MY PETS BUT I CAN'T KEEP THEM AT HOME, SO SHE'S TAKING CARE OF THEM FOR ME
HEEH
Hey High Priest!! How are you-!?
YOU SEE THE DOG AND MONKEY ON HER SIDE?
I'm a wolf not a dog!!
IS SHE YOUR GIRL-FRIEND!?
N-NO . IT'S NOT LIKE THAT..


JUST LIKE THAT IDOL -LIKE BEAUTY OVER THERE
MUST BE GREAT
YOU'RE ALSO VERY WITTY, FUU -CHAN
SHE'S NOT TOO SOCIABLE SO SHE'S SOMETIMES A LITTLE BLUNT
Ha Ha Ha
B.C.P.D
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW, MAYU?
Rrrp
SENDING A MAIL TO YOU, FUUTO.
Bleep
GAH! OBVIO-USLY

OH, YEAH!
WHY DON'T WE GO TO MAYU'S HOUSE TO PLAY NEXT TIME, SOU-CHAN
IT'S A HUGE HOUSE WHICH LOOKS LIKE A LOVE HOTEL
AND IT'S GOT ALL SORTS OF INTERESTING ANTIQUITIES AROUND THE PLACE
'KAY?

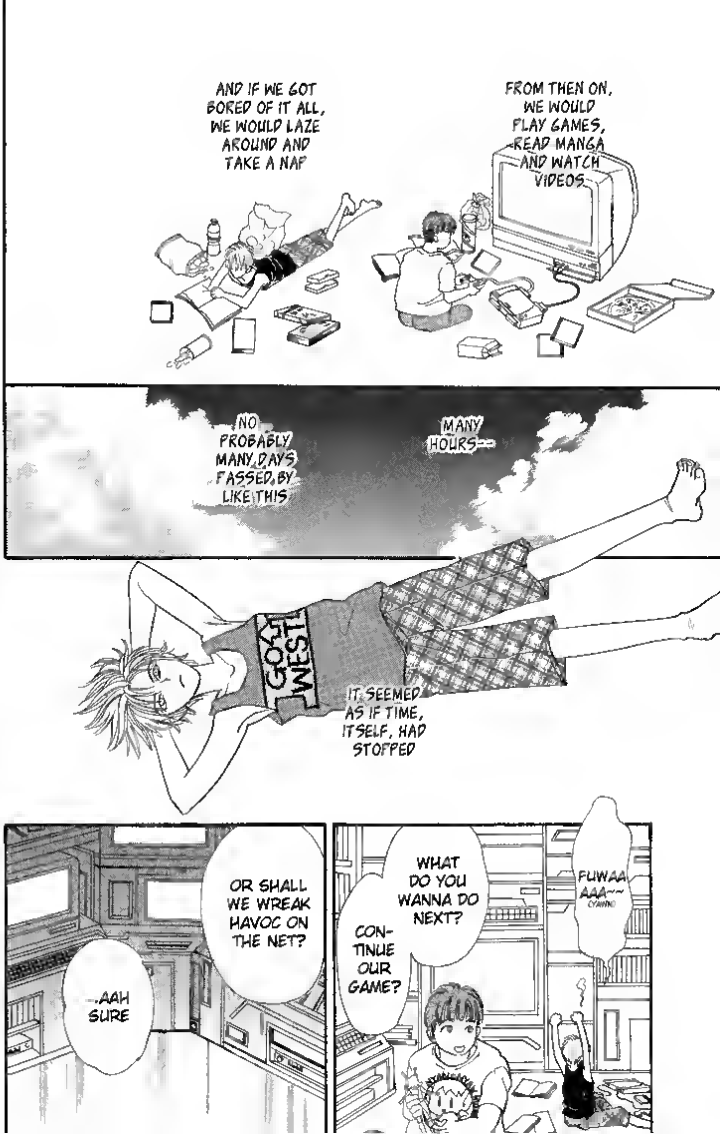
C.P.D.
IT'S... IT'S OKAY..
EVEN IF I GO OUT ESPE-CIALLY FOR THIS..
WE'VE ONLY BEEN MAIL FRIENDS FOR 10 MIN-UTES..
SOU-CHAN..
C.P.D.

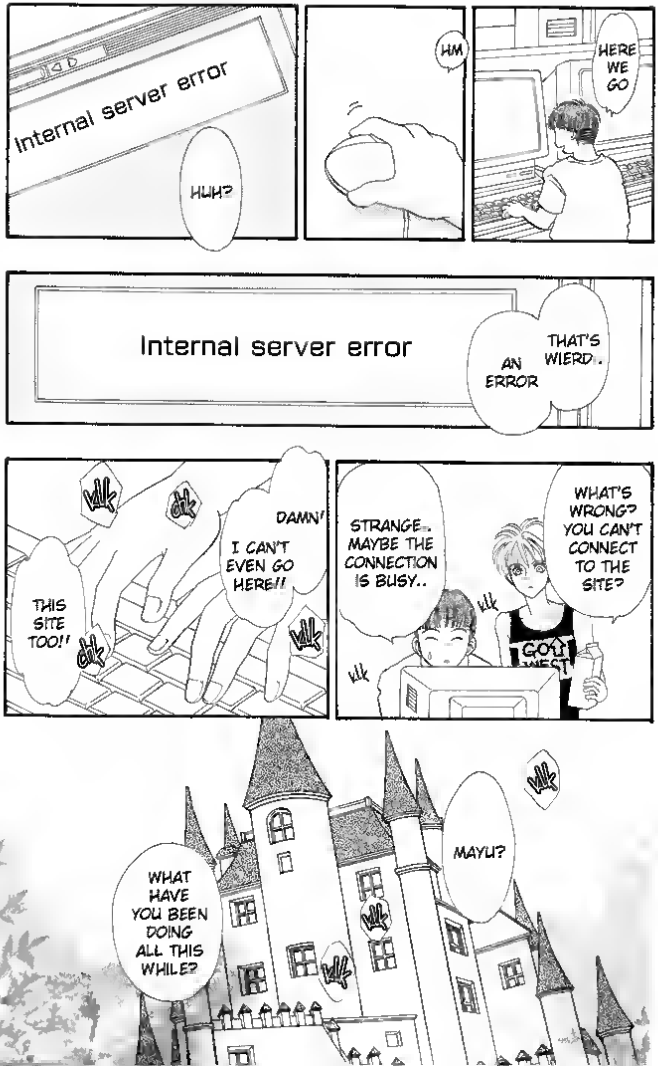
HEY..
WHAT HAPP-ENED?
FIVE YEARS AGO
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN AT SCHOOL?
WAS SOMEONE BULLYING YOU?
OR WAS IT..
N-NO..
NOT REALLY
C.P.D.
BUT THEN..!!
IT'S JUST THAT.
IT'S MORE EXCITING OVER HERE
NOT HAVING TO MEET ANYONE
OR SPEAK WITH ANYONE

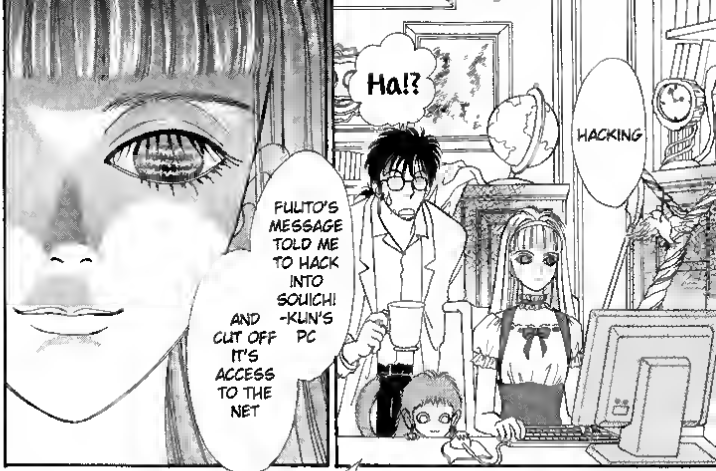
EH!?
I KNOW!!
WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE WITH ME?
WE CAN PLAY GAMES ALL DAY WITHOUT BEING SCOLDED
WE DON'T HAVE TO DO OUR HOME-WORK
WE CAN EAT WHAT-EVER WE WANT
AND WE CAN SLEEP AND WAKE UP AT WHATEVER TIME WE PLEASE
IT'LL AWAYS FEEL LIKE WE'RE ON SUMMER VACATION
OKAY, FUU-CHAN? YOU'RE STAYING HERE WITH ME. !!
RIGHT?

REALLY!? ALRIGHT!!
OKAY OKAY
WHAT SHALL WE DO FIRST!?
HOW ABOUT A GAME? OR WE CAN WATCH A DVD!?
HIGH PRIEST!!
...OKAY
I'LL STAY HERE WITH YOU
HIGH PRIEST!?
BUT FIRST I'LL HAVE TO SEND THIS NOISY GUY BACK HOME
SURE, GO AHEAD
HIGH PRIE-ST!
PCPD
HA HA HA
FUU-CHAN, BIRDS CAN'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN WORDS, Y'KNOW
flap
flap
OKAY? AND TELL MOM THAT 'I'M STAYING OVER AT SOU-CHAN'S HOUSE FOR A WHILE'
AND THEN-
B-BUT
HONOR-ABLE HIGH PRIEST WHY...?

FUU-CHAN! HURRY UP
YEP
..THAT'S AN ORDER
UNDER-STOOD
SEE YA
flap
flap


AND IF WE GOT BORED OF IT ALL, WE WOULD LAZE AROUND AND TAKE A NAP
FROM THEN ON, WE WOULD PLAY GAMES, READ MANGA AND WATCH VIDEOS
NO PROBABLY MANY DAYS PASSED BY LIKE THIS
MANY HOURS--
GO WEST
IT SEEMED AS IF TIME, ITSELF, HAD STOPPED
OR SHALL WE WREAK HAVOC ON THE NET?
...AAH SURE
WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO NEXT?
CON-TINUE OUR GAME?
FUWAA AAA~~
YAWN


Internal server error
HUH?
HM
HERE WE GO
Internal server error
AN ERROR
THAT'S WIERD..
DAMN!
I CAN'T EVEN GO HERE!!
THIS SITE TOO!!
STRANGE.. MAYBE THE CONNECTION IS BUSY..
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU CAN'T CONNECT TO THE SITE?
MAYU?
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THIS WHILE?


Ha!?
HACKING
FULITO'S MESSAGE TOLD ME TO HACK INTO SOUICH! -KUN'S PC
AND CUT OFF IT'S ACCESS TO THE NET

DAMMIT! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!!
BAM

HUH?
TH PIZZA I ORDERED SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED BY NOW..
ANYWAY, I'M HUNGRY
..AH WELL
SOU-CHAN?
.....
GO WEST

DOSU
DON
DON
HA
SO-. SOUICHI IS CALLING
HE'S ANGRY SINCE HIS FOOD IS LATE
PIZZA OTTO
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN!? THIS IS FULUTO-SAMA'S ORDERS
BU-BUT..
PIZZA OTTO
THAT WILL NOT DO!!
NEVER IGNORE HIS REQUEST

THE AIRCON'S BEEN CUT...
HAH
HAH
..AND WHY IS IT SO HOT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
VIRUS
VIRUS
DAMMIT! EVEN THIS ONE DOESN'T WORK!
THE ELECTRICITY AND THE WATER SUPPLY HAVE BEEN CUT OFF--
SORRY SOU-CHAN
I ATE THE REST OF YOUR FOOD
YAW
THIS IS THE LAST OF OUR WATER
..YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT

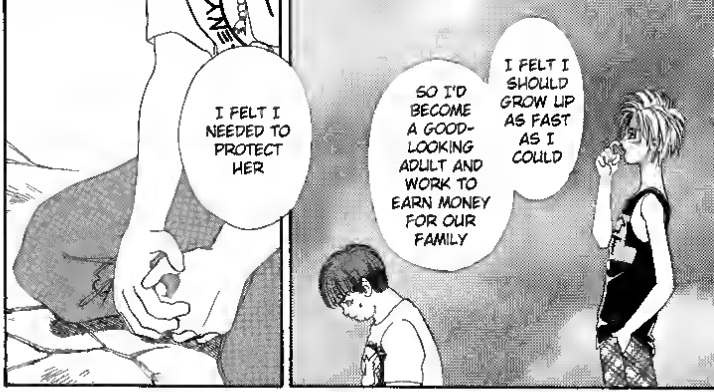
..YES.. IT'S THAT OLD BITCH'S FAULT..
..THIS IS ALL THAT WOMAN'S FAULT..
WHO ELSE
THAT TIME..?
I KNEW IT
I SHOULD HAVE KILLED HER THAT TIME
MY MOTHER, OF COURSE
AND WHO'S THIS OLD BITCH?

THE ONE WHO CHASED YOU OUT, FUU-CHAN, WAS THAT HAG
FUU-CHAN, EVER SINCE THEN YOUR GHOST-SEEING, FORESIGHT AND STRONG CONTACT WITH THE SPIRIT WORLD MADE YOU FAMOUS IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD
AND THAT'S WHY MY MOTHER
NO AT THAT TIME, EVEN I WAS BAD
I WAS A BIT OF A BRAT
YES, THAT ONE DAY
HEY AUNTIE, WHO WAS THAT MAN IN THE CAR WITH YOU YESTERDAY?
I CLEARLY REMEMBER HER FROZEN EXPRESSIONS THAT TIME
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING FUUTO-KUN
I WAS ALONE IN THE CAR YESTER-DAY
THIS CHILD IS SPEAKING ABSOLUTE NONSENSE
THIS CHILD IS A LIAR!!

...WAIT.. I WAS STILL A KID THAT TIME
SO I CAN'T REALLY RECALL MUCH, BUT..
OH YEAH..!! THAT WASN'T A GHOST!
.....
...YOU AND YOUR MOTHER WERE FORCED TO MOVE AWAY
BECAUSE MY MOTHER SPREAD THE WORD AROUND THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD
WELL.. OF COURSE IF SOMEONE TOLD YOU 'THERE'S A GHOST BY YOUR SIDE' YOU'D GET UPSET
THAT MAN WAS HER LOVER
EXACTLY
NYAN NYAN
SHE THOUGHT I HAD CAUGHT HER IN THE ACT
THAT CHILD IS A LIAR!!
I SEE
SINCE MY FATHER WAS AWAY MOST OF THE TIME, SHE DATED A YOUNG GUY AS A SUBSTITUTE
OF COURSE IF MY FATHER FOUND OUT, HE'D DIVORCE HER

SHE'S A DIRTY WOMAN ..!!
GOLD WEST
DIRTY!!
IF I CONTINUED TO LIVE WITH HER LIKE THAT
I WOULD HAVE KILLED HER
SO THAT'S WHY, SOU-CHAN..
DECIDED TO STAY IN HIS ROOM
WITHOUT ANY CONTACT WITH SOCIETY

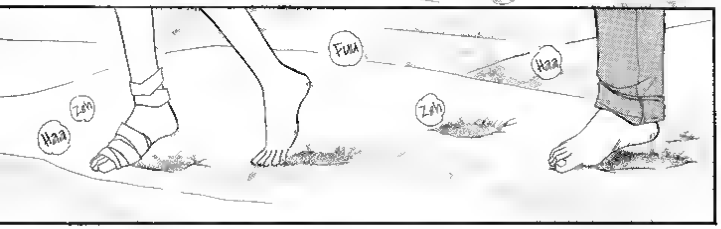
..HEY SOU-CHAN
DO YOU KNOW?
MY FATHER'S BEEN GONE FOR 3 YEARS TO TAKE PHOTOS AND HE STILL HASN'T COME BACK HOME
TO PROTECT HIS MOTHER
MY MOTHER WAS STILL YOUNG AND REALLY PRETTY
AND SHE WAS ALWAYS TOLD TO FORGET ABOUT THAT GOOD-FOR-NOTHING MAN AND FIND A BETTER ONE TO START AFRESH
YET SHE NEVER SEEMED TO GIVE UP HOPE
..THOUGH, ONCE IN A WHILE SHE WOULD LOOK VERY UNHAPPY
AND LONELY..
I.. COULDN'T REALLY EXPRESS MYSELF WELL, BUT..

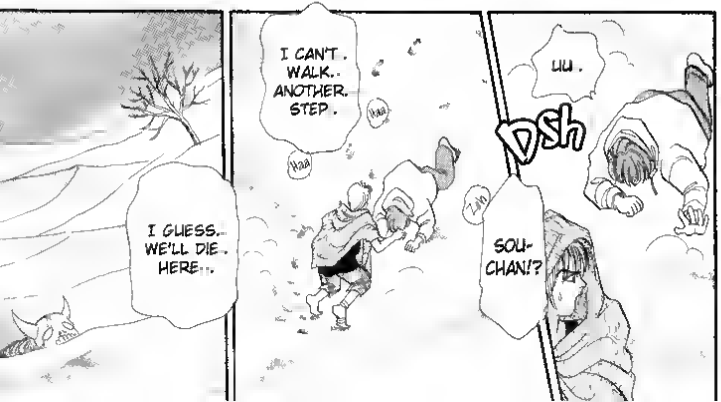

I FELT I NEEDED TO PROTECT HER
SO I'D BECOME A GOOD-LOOKING ADULT AND WORK TO EARN MONEY FOR OUR FAMILY
I FELT I SHOULD GROW UP AS FAST AS I COULD

SHE'S EVEN BECOME SHORTER THAN ME
SOU-CHAN
IF YOU WERE TO MEET YOUR MOTHER AFTER THESE 5 YEARS
YOU'D SEE THAT SHE'S BECOME THIN AND PALE
...?...

AT THIS RATE, WE'LL SHRIVEL UP AND DIE
..SOU-CHAN WHY DON'T WE GO OUT?
Eh?
GO WET
Hic
I'VE BEEN THINKING OF DOING THAT FOR A WHILE. BUT..
..ACTU-ALLY
Hic
THE EXIT--
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE DOOR IS
Eh!?
Hic
Hic

IF THIS KEEPS UP, THEY'LL BOTH DIE FROM STARVATION
IT'S ALREADY BEEN 3 DAYS
I CAN'T HEAR ANY SOUNDS
THIS IS THEIR LIMIT
I WON'T ALLOW THAT!!
THIS ISN'T JUST FOR YOUR SON
IT IS ALSO AN ORDEAL MEANT FOR YOU
FOR.. ME..!?
.....


Haa
Zah
Fuu
Haa
Zah


I CAN'T. WALK.. ANOTHER. STEP.
Haa
Haa
I GUESS.. WE'LL DIE. HERE...
Uu.
Dsh
Zah
SOU-CHAN!?

I CAN'T DIE IN THIS PITIFUL WAY
THE EXIT
I CAN'T DIE HERE!!
SOU-CHAN!?
WHERE'S THE DOOR!?
!?

THIS
IS-

SOU-ICHI!!
DSH
DSH
HIGH PRIEST!!
SOUICHI! FUJITO -KUN!
HANG IN THERE
SOU-ICHI!!
Haaaaaaa
SOU-ICHI..
..MA ..MA?
SOU-ICHI!

Nao
Zuki
WHA-
THOSE LOOKS IP
MAMA..
YEAH
THAT'S HOW HE REALLY LOOKS LIKE AFTER 5 YEARS
WHEN WE MOVED AWAY
SOU-CHAN WAS IN HIS THIRD YEAR IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
SOU-CHAN'S ALREADY AN ADULT NOW

PLAIN WATER NEVER TASTED THIS GREAT!
HERE'S ANOTHER BOTTLE DRINK AS MUCH AS YOU WANT
UMAAA~~I (crying)
Aaaaaa
GULP GULP GULP
OH? YOU'RE NOT GONNA SAY 'DON'T DRINK TOO FAST' TODAY?
HIGH PRIEST
Where's that red-haired man?
Huh?
Water
WHAT ON EARTH WAS THAT
PALACE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT
WELL ANYWAY
THE PLACE WHICH SHOWED ME THE WAY TO THE DOOR
Water
Tsuzuku Jinsei c...
Story 6 / End

Two Thrones

YOU SAW A PALACE IN THE MIDDLE OF A DESERT IN THAT ROOM!?
YUP
IT HAD THIS STRANGE ONION-LIKE THING ON IT
THAT SOUNDS VERY MUCH LIKE DARA-SHAAL
BUT WHY?
WHY WAS IT IN SUCH A PLACE!?
-WAS WHAT THEY WOULD SAY
"THE GATES OF DARASHAAL WILL ONLY OPEN TO THOSE WHO ARE NEARING THE ABYSS OF DEATH"
OH YEAH! JUST LIKE THE LOST TRAVELLERS OF THE SILK ROAD LONG AGO

"THE ABYSS OF DEATH"--

HIGH PRIEST!
BUT YOU WEREN'T A TRAVELLER
YOU SAW IT BECAUSE YOU WERE THE OWNER OF THAT PALACE'S THRONE
THERE YOU GO AGAIN
THEN THAT MEANS SOU-CHAN AND I
WERE ON THE VERGE OF STARVING TO DEATH, LOCKED UP IN THAT 8 TATAMI MAT SIZED ROOM
EVEN THOUGH TELLING MAYU TO 'HACK INTO SOU-CHAN'S COMPUTER' WAS A CINCH
WOULDN'T YOU LOOK LIKE AN ORDINARY BIRD TO NORMAL HUMANS?
HOW THE HECK DID MOM AND SOU-CHAN'S MOTHER UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU SAID'?
W-WELL...
WAIT A MINUTE!!
THAT TIME YOU PASSED MY MESSAGES TO THE PEOPLE OUTSIDE, RIGHT?
Y-YES
YOU TOLD MOM THAT I'M 'STAYING OVER AT SOU-CHAN'S HOUSE FOR A WHILE'
AND YOU TOLD SOU-CHAN'S MOTHER 'NEVER PUT FOOD IN THE FRIDGE OR OPEN THE DOOR FROM OUTSIDE UNTIL WE COME OUT'

YES
I MADE MY TRUE FORM VIEW-ABLE TO HUMANS
AND MY SPEECH SOUND LIKE IT'S JAPANESE
YOU CAN DO THAT!?
THAT'S BECAUSE I GAVE A 'HINT'
A 'HINT'!?
IT'S REALLY EASY
OF COURSE WE CAN DO THAT

I-ICHI-JOU SENSEI!
I CAN SEE
Y-YOU GUYS
I CAN ALSO SEE YOU!!
YO
YOU'RE GENROU-KUN!?
AND YOU MUST BE HANUMAN
IYAA--- YOU'RE CUTE IN THIS FORM, TOO
AND YOU'RE GARUDA ....!!
JUST LIKE THE ONE IN THE MURALS EXCAVATED NEAR THE AJANTA CAVES!!
(INDIA)
MY APOLOGIES FOR NOT INTRODUCING MYSELF EARLIER, ICHIJOU-DONO
BUT I'VE ALWAYS SEEN HIM LOOKING LIKE THIS
OOOOH! THIS IS AMAZING! I CAN ALSO UNDERSTAND WHAT HE SAYS!!

YOU BASTARDS!! WHY DIDN'T YOU DO THAT FROM THE BEGINNING THEN!!
Yeah
Yeah
--WAIT
HOW ABOUT YOUR BIRD HEAD?
IT'LL STILL MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE A MYSTERY GUY FROM SOME FREAK SHOW
WHAT KIND OF HEAD DID YOU SHOW TO MOM AND THE REST?

..EH?
. SO YOU'VE REALLY FOR-GOTTEN EVERY-THING
WHA-
RELAX, RELAX
I KNOW! IF YOU REALLY WISH US TO, HIGH PRIEST, WE CAN CONTINUE TO STAY IN THIS FORM
AH! THEN
THEN WE CAN FOLLOW YOU TO SCHOOL TOO AND STAY WITH YOU IN YOUR APARTME~NT♪
NO WAY!
YOU'D STILL LOOK SUSPICIOUS
THAT WAY MAYU WON'T HAVE TO TRANSLATE EVERYTHING FOR ME
AND THERE'LL BE A LOT LESS SPEECH BUBBLES

Urumqi
(City in Western China's Largest Province)

WE ARE DEMANDING AN EXTENTION OF THE NON-AGGRESSION PACT MADE 100 YEARS AGO
AS A UNITED, INDE-PENDENT NATION
ECONOMIC AID IS UNNECES-SARY

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL GUARANTEE THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND RESIDENCE TO THE CITIZENS OF DARASHAAL LIVING IN THE XINJIANG UYGUR AUTONOMOUS REGION
WE CAN ALSO PROVIDE ECONOMIC AID

FURTHERMORE, OUR REPORTS SHOW THAT YOUR NATION HAS NO INDUSTRY OR ANY NATURAL RESOURCES
B-BUT YOUR COUNTRY'S POPULATION AND EXACT TERRITORIAL BORDERS ARE UNCERTAIN

THEY PRAY DEVOUTLY FOR THEIR DAILY PROVI-SIONS
OUR CITIZENS ARE SCATTERING AROUND THE WORLD
THOUGH ON THE BORDERS OF YOUR TERRITORY DURING EQUINOCTIAL WEEK
(WHEN SUCH ST SERVICES ARE HELD?)
NONSENSE! FAITH ALONE CANNOT FILL AN EMPTY STOMACH
HA
BY ANY CHANCE, HAVE YOU ALREADY HAD TALKS WITH INDIA OR THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF UZBE-KISTAN!?
SUCH RUDE-NESS!
CALM DOWN
WE WILL BE A NATION WHICH WILL NOT BE INVADED NOR RULED BY ANOTHER COUNTRY
THAT IS DARASHAAL'S HIGH PRIEST'S HOPES FOR THE NEW MILLENIUM (2000)
I'M SURE THAT IN THESE 100 YEARS, DYNASTIES HAVE CHANGED AND COUNTRY BORDERS HAVE BEEN REDRAWN IN YOUR COUNTRY, TOO

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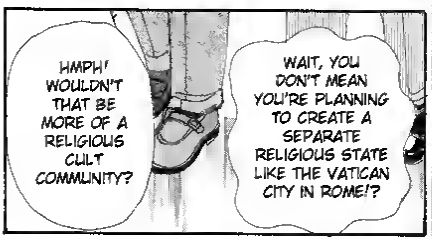

HMPH! WOULDN'T THAT BE MORE OF A RELIGIOUS CULT COMMUNITY?
WAIT, YOU DON'T MEAN YOU'RE PLANNING TO CREATE A SEPARATE RELIGIOUS STATE LIKE THE VATICAN CITY IN ROME!?

OR CAUSE THE MINORITY GROUPS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION TO RALLY UP IN AN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT
HOWEVER, WE WOULDN'T WANT TO VIOLATE COUNTRY BORDERS AND RE-IGNITE OLD EMBERS..

YARE YARE
(Sigh)
THAT TALK WITH THE COMMUNISTS WAS TENSE
IT WAS "RELIGION IS THE ENEMY OF POLITICS" VERSUS THE FANATIC
HEHE
WELL, THAT'S ONE REASON

THEY HAVE A SAYING LIKE THAT IN THAT FAR EASTERN ISLAND NATION
THEY SAY THAT THOSE WHO DON'T PRETEND TO BE OTHERS AND HOPE FOR GOD'S DIVINE PROTEC-TION
SHALL BE SAVED FROM EVEN THE DEVIL'S WORST CALAMITY
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF THAT CHIBI MONKEY WAS TRICKED, BUT FOR THEM TO TRICK GENROU AS WELL...
COME TO THINK OF IT, HAVE GENROU SHOUGUN AND HANUMAN BETRAYED US?
THAT BASTARD GARUDA!
PATIENCE, MY FRIEND
ALLOW ME TO GO AND I'LL-

I'VE ALREADY SENT THE NEXT ASSASSIN
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU
YOUR DUTY IS TO PROTECT THE HONORABLE HIGH PRIEST

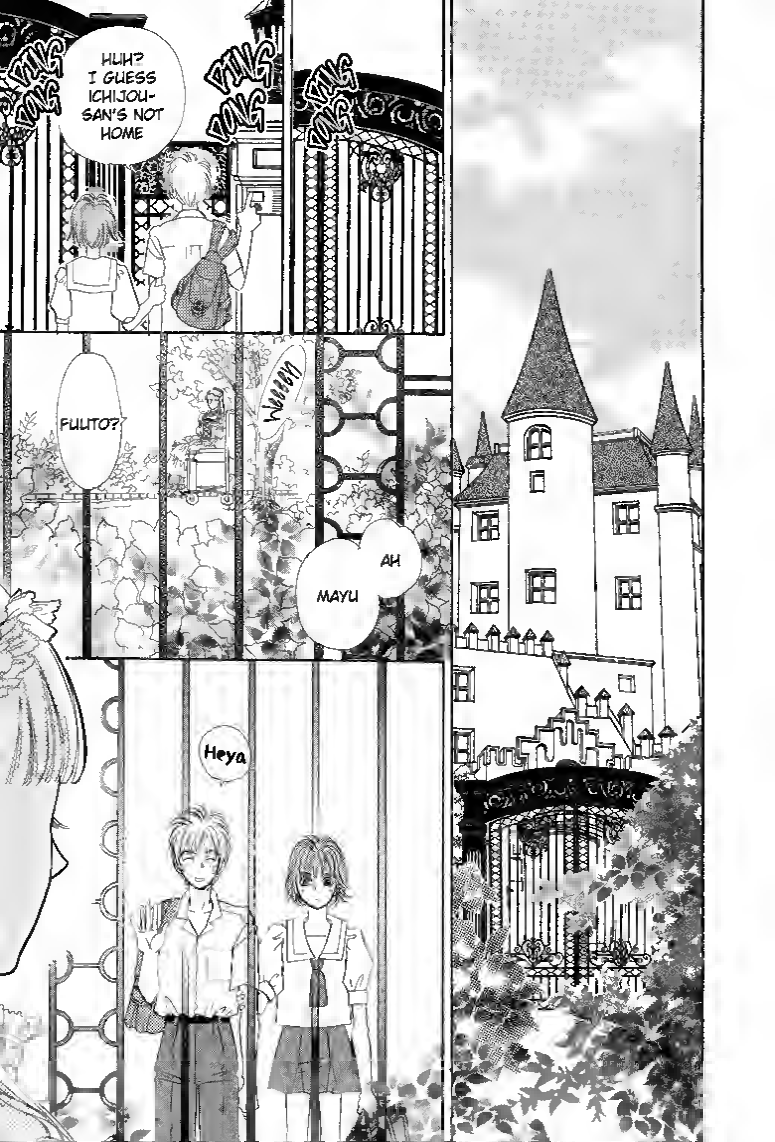
THE 'LAST HIGH FRIEST' WAS LIKE THIS AND THAT, THEY KEEP SAYING
TCHI THIS IS ANNOYING
SO YOU'VE REALLY FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING
NO, YOU'RE THE ONE HURTING PEOPLE WITH THAT ATTITUDE, YOU BIRDBRAIN
AAA~~H! SO DAMN ANNOYING!!

GO BACK AND EXCHANGE IT!
AND I HATE POTATOES!
You want me to listen, you who Baobaiji?!
SHADDUP!
IT'S NOT GOOD TO HAVE AN UNBALANCED DIET
HEY! THIS ISN'T THE YAKISOBA BREAD I ASKED FOR!
T-TODAY THEY WERE OUT OF STOCK
HIGH PRIE~ST
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT
Baobaiji Grilled Chicken and Cucumber Salad (Japanese Food)
..SHINA ...KUN
EH?
CAN I SEE YOU FOR A BIT?
KAAMI-SHIIINA-KUU~N ♡

AAH A 2ND YEAR
AND..?
I'M KATSURAGI AYANA FROM CLASS 2-A
I GUESS I'LL CUT STRAIGHT TO THE POINT..
UMM.. WELL..
OH?
SURE
WHAT'S UP?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE
WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME?
HEEH!?
AH .UMM. WELL...
I'VE AA~LWAYS BEEN WATCHING YOU, EVER SINCE YOU TRANSFERRED HERE, YOU SEE

OR MAYBE YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?
.HUH
N-NO. . NOT REALLY
OKAY OKAY, I KNOW
WHY DON'T WE TRY THIS OUT FOR A WEEK!
YOU CAN TELL ME YOUR REPLY AFTER THAT, 'KAY!
W-WAIT A MINUTE
Me?
.....
NO PROBLEM! THAT'S FINE WITH ME, AYANA
YAAAY!!
HIGH PRIEST!?
HIGH PRIEST!
DON'T BE TOO HASTY! YOU'RE-

YOU WANNA GO BACK HOME TOGETHER AFTER SCHOOL?
OH THAT'S THE BELL..
RiRiRiRi
I GUESS
WHERE D'YOU WANNA GO!?
A CAFE? KARA-OKE?
OR MAYBE..
SORRY, I'M OUT OF CASH
EEE~~H THEN WHERE DO YOU USUALLY HANG OUT?
HMMM~~ LATELY I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AT ICHIJOU SENSEI'S HOUSE
IT'S THAT CASTLE ON THE HILL OVER THERE
EEE~~H SO THAT WASN'T A LOVE HOTEL?
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE IT UP CLOSE
. EH.. B-BUT..
I WANNA GO TOO~
ne ♡
.....

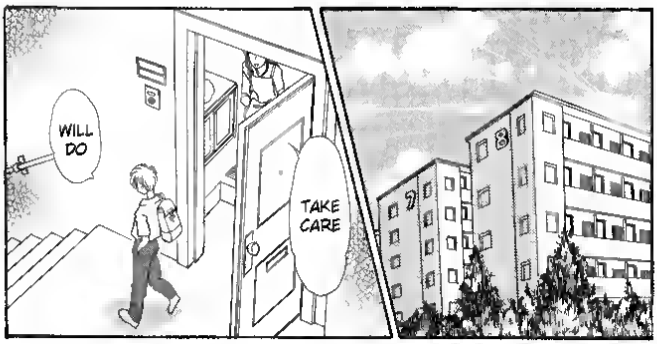

HUH? I GUESS ICHIJOU-SAN'S NOT HOME
PULS
PULS
PULS
PULS
FULUTO?
WWWW
AH MAYU
Heya

WHO'S THIS GIRL?
AH
OI! AYANA!
PULL!
AH! HIGH PRIEST!?
FULUTO!

WAIT!
WAIT UP, AYANA!
AH! LET GO OF ME
AYANA!!
EH?
YOU'RE SO MEAN! MEAN! MEAAAN!
N-NO. SHE ISN'T. CALM DOWN
YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND
PA!
AYANA!!

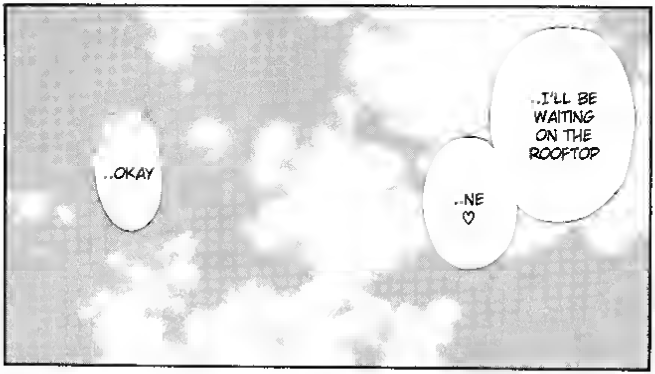
SHE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT
SHE'S NOT VERY SOCIABLE
SINCE SHE DOESN'T MEET WITH MANY NEW PEOPLE
BUT
SHE GAVE ME A REALLY COLD LOOK JUST NOW
MA-MAYU ISN'T MY "GIRLFRIEND" OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT AT ALL
EH?
PROMISE ME THAT YOU'LL NEVER SEE THAT GIRL AGAIN!
..SO
GIRLS ARE REALLY TROUBLE-SOME
Vu
..NE..?

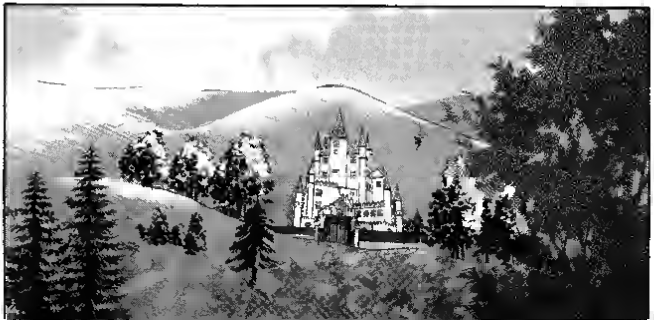
scans = TsukiGoKim
trans / edits : ezrameifa


WILL DO
TAKE CARE

IT'S ANNOYING HAVING YOU GUYS WATCHING OVER ME ALL DAY
B-BUT... IT'S OUR DUTY TO PROTECT YOU, HIGH PRIEST
. GARUDA DON'T FOLLOW ME AROUND ANYMORE
EH!?
HIGH PRIEE~ST! WAIT FOR MEE!
AS
AS YOU WISH...
ENOUGH!
I SAID DON'T SHOW YOUR FACE IN FRONT OF ME, AGAIN

NEE..
LET'S EAT
LUNCH
TOGETHER
SURE
HEY
YOU CAME
ALONE
TODAY?
YEAH
AH
FULITO
-KUUUN


..I'LL BE
WAITING
ON THE
ROOFTOP
..NE
♡
..OKAY



HMM? ISN'T IT TIME FOR YOU TO BE GOING TO SCHOOL WITH THE HONORABLE HIGH PRIEST?
GEN-ROU
GARUDA -SAMA
Momo Taroo
..IT SEEMS I HAVE ANGERED HIM AGAIN
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!
DON'T SHOW YOUR FACE IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN!!
FROM NOW ON, YOU TWO WILL BE THE HIGH PRIEST'S BODYGUARDS INSTEAD OF ME
WAIT..
?
?

IT'S THAT GIRL'S FAULT!
THAT GIRL IS EVIL
FULITO IS IN DANGER
MAYU-DONO.?
MAYU ..?
IS SHE JEALOUS?
HA
MAYBE SHE'S NAAGA -SAMA'S THIRD ASSASSIN!?
flap
WHAT!?
WAIT!
GLIDE
I'M GOING TOO
MAYU-DONO..

COME ON FUUTO -KUN
LET'S GO TOGETHER!

FUUTO!!
HIGH PRIEST!!
FUUTO!! WAKE UP!
DON'T INTER-FERE!!

FUUTO -KUN'S GOING TOGETHER WITH ME!!
HIGH PRIEST!!
FUUTO!!

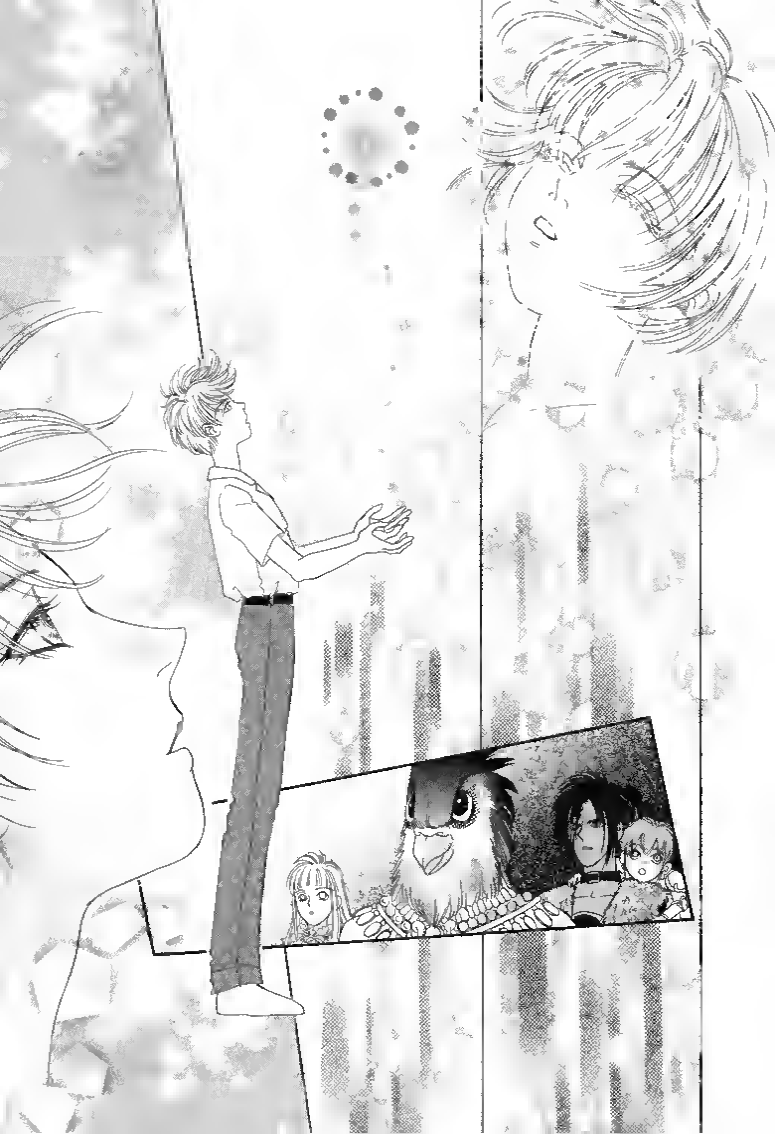
HIGH-
GLUP
FLAP FLAP
GARUDA -SAMA ♡
HAAH
は
HUH!

Y-YOU ARE..
KATSURAGI AYANA
BORN ON THE 20TH OF JUNE, 54TH SHOUWA YEAR (1979)
YOU TRANSFERRED TO MEIOU GAKUEN'S MIDDLE SCHOOL IN THE 4TH HEIWA YEAR (1992) AND YOU WERE EXPELLED THE FOLLOWING YEAR IN SEPTEMBER
YOU DIED 7 YEARS AGO
FROM JUMPING OFF THE ROOFTOP

Con... fess...
YOU WERE IN YOUR THIRD YEAR AND YOU CONFESSED TO A BOY ON THE ROOFTOP
YES! PLEASE REMEMBER
Dead...?
I'm dead...?
And climbed over the railings
I was utterly stunned...
And I was rejected.
Then Fuuto-kun came along
And turned to face me
Where everyone ignored me
But instead, before I knew it, I was here
Until I was sick and tired of being all alone
I would have been dating with my senpai (in this case, boyfriend)
We would take pictures at the print club and talk on the phone all night long
We would have had so much fun...

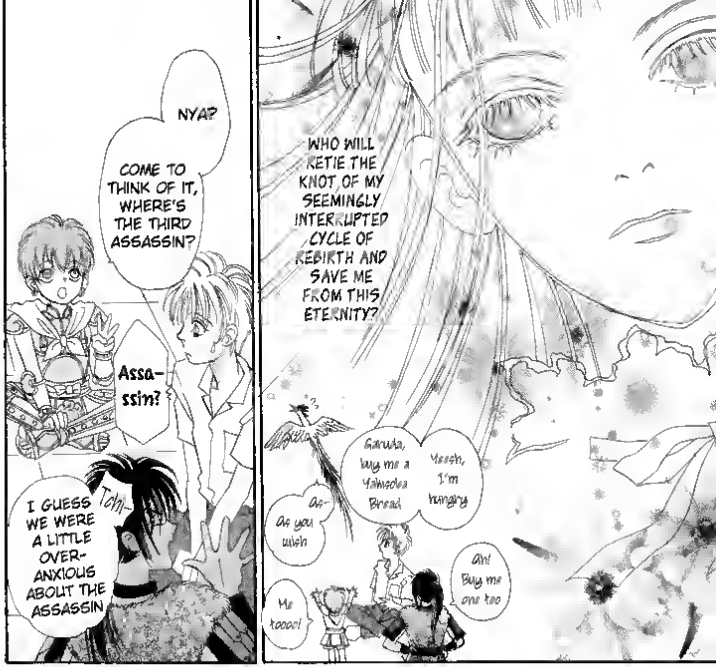
Fauto-kun was the only friend I could talk to
I felt I could escape this place if I was with him
. then..
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU BRING SOMEONE ALONG TO JUMP OFF WITH YOU, YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE
Then what should I do!
Where should I go!?
IT'S SIMPLE
Fauto kun.

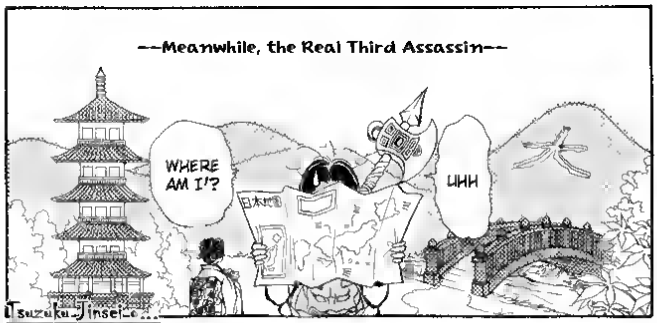
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO, AYANA, IS IMAGINE YOU'LL MEET SOMEONE PRECIOUS IN YOUR NEXT LIFE
TRY TO IMAGINE THAT.. ..AND YOU'LL SURELY..
FIND SOMEONE BETTER THAN ME OR THE GUY WHO REJECTED YOU



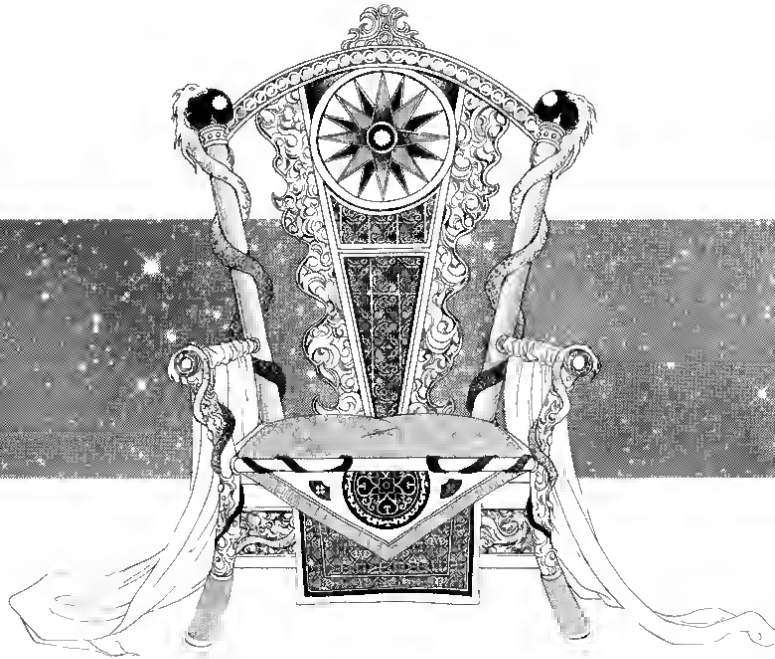
GU HA HA HA
That was damn scary!!
H-.. HIGH PRIEST ...!?
MY BODY JUST MOVED ON IT'S OWN AND DID SOME 'WHOOSH'Y THING
DID I REALLY DO THAT?
THAT WAS GREAT, YOUR HONOR!
YOU CAN EVEN PURIFY SOULS
Purify Souls? He?
HIGH PRIEST. YOUR POWERS ARE STILL UNSTABLE
SO PLEASE DON'T USE IT RECK-LESSLY
B-BUT THEN..
CAN'T YOU SEE I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE
GEEZ YOU'RE ANNOY -ING

YOU GUYS WOULD BE THERE TO HELP ME OUT
ANYWAY, I KNEW IF I GOT INTO A TIGHT SPOT
..HIGH PRIEST
YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE FROM THE WORLD BEYOND THE IRON GRILLS
TO STOP BY AND CALL OUT TO ME, FUUTO
HEHE HEHE
I GUESS YOU SAW RIGHT THROUGH HER FROM THE BEGINNING, MAYU
I WAS ALWAYS ALONE


NYA?
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE'S THE THIRD ASSASSIN?
Assa-ssin?
I GUESS WE WERE A LITTLE OVER-ANXIOUS ABOUT THE ASSASSIN
Tch
WHO WILL RETIE THE KNOT OF MY SEEMINGLY INTERRUPTED CYCLE OF REBIRTH AND SAVE ME FROM THIS ETERNITY?
Garuda, buy me a Yakisoba Bread
Yaaah, I'm hungry
As-
As you wish
Me toooo!
Ah! Buy me one too


--Meanwhile, the Real Third Assassin--
WHERE AM I!?
UHH
Tsuzuku Inshi

Story 7 / End



Story 8
The Third Assassin

A FIELD TRIP-!?
THAT'S RIGHT, KAMISHINA. YOU TRANSFERRED HERE AT A GOOD TIME
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME~~!!

I WAS HOPING IT WOULD BE KYUUSHUU OR HOKKAIDOU
A TRIP TO KYOUTO IS REALLY UNCOOL~
AND PLEASE DON'T START ANY TROUBLE WITH PUPILS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS
BE SURE TO PACK EVERY-THING ON THE CHECK-LIST
ON THE SECOND DAY YOU'RE GIVEN FREE TIME, SO PLEASE FILL IN YOUR GROUP SCHEDULE FORM
AH, AND ONE MORE THING
KYOUTO AND NARA, 4 DAYS 3 NIGHTS
POCKET MONEY SHOULDN'T EXCEED 5000 YEN
IT'S FORBIDDEN FOR YOU TO BRING YOUR PETS ALONG, KAMISHINA
Help
.....
AND THAT'S WHY

SINCE YOU CAN'T BRING PETS, HOW ABOUT IF WE GO IN THIS FORM?
What a family trip(and trip)
SO I CAN'T GO TOO~
THIS TIME YOU GUYS ARE STAYING HOME!!
IT'S ALREADY BAD ENOUGH GOING ON THIS PTA ORGANIZED FIELD TRIP WITH THE REST OF THE CLASS!
D'YOU WANNA MAKE ME EVEN MORE EMBA-RASSED THAN THAT!?
IT'LL BE EVEN MORE SUSPI-CIOUS LIKE THAT!!
eeeeeeh!?
THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL YOU'RE COMING ALONG!
NO WAY!!
FULITO-KUN, BRING US BACK SOME CINNAMON COOKIES ♡

MEIOU GAKUEN STUDENTS! NEXT WE'RE GOING TO THE SANJUUSAN GENDOU
(33 STATUES OF INCARNATIONS OF BUDDHA)

WHY DON'T WE HAVE A PARTY AFTER THE LIGHTS GO OUT TONIGHT
HAVE YOU BOUGHT SOUVENIRS YET?
WHERE DO YA WANNA GO DURING OUR FREE TIME!?
How Lame
NOT ANOTHER TEMPLE
VISITING ALL THESE ANCIENT TEMPLES AND SHINTO SHRINES IS JUST A WASTE OF TIME
YOU ALWAYS GET THE STRANGE FEELING YOU'RE BEING WATCHED
AND HEAR ALL THESE WIERD MUFFLED NOISES

...WHO...
WHO ARE YOU!?
WHO'S THAT!?
WHOO!?
Bikun
HEY! WHO TOUCHED THE STATUE!?

THE STATUE COULDN'T HAVE TURNED BY ITSELF!!
EEE~~H NOW WHO WOULD'VE DONE SUCH A THING.
WHO!?
IF THESE NATIONAL TREASURES ARE HARMED
AN APOLOGY ISN'T ENOUGH TO COMPENSATE FOR IT
NOT AGAIN...
I MADE A GOOD CHOICE
IF I HAD BROUGHT THEM ALONG
IT'D HAVE BEEN MORE TROUBLING

WE WERE JUST BEING A LITTLE OVERANXIOUS ABOUT THE THIRD ASSASSIN
RELAX, LEADER
TOP
TOP
B-BUT WHAT IF HE CATCHES A COLD FROM THIS MORNING'S CHILL IN THE KANSAI REGION
OR WHAT IF THE INN FOOD DOESN'T SUIT HIS TASTES
BU BU BU
THERE'S SOME INTERESTING STUFF ON THE NEWS
HEY GUYS
ZUUUUPP
IF YOU WORRY LIKE THAT, HE'LL HATE YOU FOR BEING SO OVER-PROTECTIVE
Um... A Miracle Hat

AND NOW FOR SOME HEART-WARMING RANDOM NEWS
RECENTLY, A LOST COW IN NARA PARK IS MAKING HEADLINES
IT SEEMS TO BE SETTLING DOWN IN THE AREA AFTER BEING FED SHIKASENBEIS (BISCUITS FOR DEERS) BY THE TOURISTS
HOWEVER, THE LOCAL POLICE ARE STILL WAITING FOR IT'S OWNER TO RECLAIM IT--
A MINO-TAUR?
YAMANTAKA!!

AA-H! THIS IS REALLY LAME. I WANNA GO HOME
THESE ARE THE STATUES OF BUDDHA'S SHAKA-SANZON (TRIAD OF SHAKA)
BZZ
BZZ
CREATED IN THE TENPYOU PERIOD, (750-749AD) IT'S NOW BECOMING A NATIONAL TREASURE
THIS STATUE LOOKS A LOT LIKE GARUDA

THAT'S 'KARURA', ONE OF THE TENRYUU HACHI BUSHUU (8 GODS WHICH PROTECT BUDDHISM)
'KARURA' EVEN THEIR NAMES ARE SIMILAR
ARE THERE ONES OF A MONKEY AND A WOLF?
WELL IF IT'S A MONKEY AND A DOG THEN THE JUUNI SHINSHOU OF (12 DEITIES OF YAKUSHI) THE YAKUSHIJI TEMPLE HAS ONE
THE TENRYUU HACHI BUSHUU OF BUDDHISM ORIGINATED FROM THE HINDU GODS
SUCH AS THE BIRD KING, 'KARURA' AND THE DRAGON KING, 'NAAGA'
THIS INCLUDES THE WAR GOD 'ASHURA'
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE JUUNI SHINSHOU ARE PART OF YAKUSHI NYORAI'S (THE MEDICINE BUDDHA) HOUSE-HOLD
THE MONKEY WOULD BE 'MAKORA' WHILE THE DOG WOULD BE 'SHOUTORA'
EACH OF THE TWELVE HAVE THEIR OWN INSTANCES AND ALIGNMENTS IN ACCORDANCE TO CHINESE ASTROLOGY
SO, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE YEAR OF THE COCK, 'SHINDARA', WHICH IS SIMILAR TO 'KARURA', WOULD EXIST

I GUESS THEY'RE KINDA LIKE DISTANT RELATIVES
THEY ORIGINATED FROM THE MOUNTAIN RANGES OF INDONESIA AND SPREAD TO PLACES LIKE CHINA, TIBET AND JAPAN. ALONG THE WAY, THEY UNDERWENT MINOR CHANGES
I THINK MAYU TALKED ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE (CHAPTER 2)
Next we're going to the 5-storied pagoda
WH
WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM!?
Eh?

A GOD FROM FOREIGN LANDS?
HE HAS NO BODY-GUARDS
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
UH..

SHUT UP!!
Ha
..KA
KAMI-SHINA!?
SHII (SILENCE) N

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT!?
AM I GOING MAD!?
NO... I'M SURE IT WAS THE STATUES
AH...
UMM...
NO.
LET ME GET SOME FRESH AAAIR...
UHH. I'M NOT FEELING WELL.
AH! WAIT!
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU!!

IMPOSTOR!!
A
Cow!?

I GUESS THAT WAS A PRETTY FAST VEHICLE
BUT SITTING DOWN DOING NOTHING FOR 3 HOURS IS PURE TORTURE
WE'VE FINALLY ARRIVED
MY EYES WERE SPINNING ROU~ND AND ROU~ND
ANYWAY, WHY DO I HAVE TO WEAR THIS WIERD THING
EVEN IN YOUR HUMAN-LIKE FORM, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET ON THE SHINKANSEN (BULLET TRAIN) WITHOUT IT
AND YOU'D VIOLATE THE ANTI-WEAPON LAW
AND GARUDA -SAMA HAD TO BE CRAMMED INTO THAT SMALL CAGE
I MEAN, EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO HUMAN, THIS IS A BIT TOO MUCH

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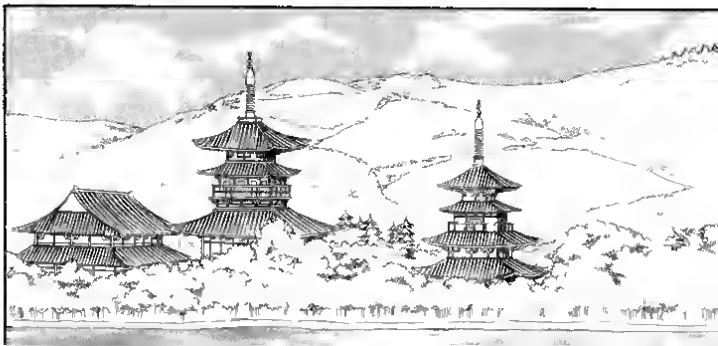
I'M GOING FIRST!
NOW WHAT? WHERE'S THIS "NARA" PLACE?
FROM HERE WE SWITCH TRAINS AND GO SOUTH FOR 30 MINUTES
30 MIN-UTES ~~!?
THIS'LL TAKE TOO LONG, HANUMAN. LET ME OUT
O-OKAY
CLK



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WHAT THE HELL D'YOU WANT!?
HOW DARE YOU TARNISH THE NAME OF DARASHAAL'S HIGH PRIEST, IMPOSTOR
ON NAAGA -SAMA'S ORDERS, I SHALL PUNISH YOU
NOT AGAIN
HEY, LISTEN UP!
I NEVER SAID THAT 'I'M THE TRUE HIGH PRIEST, ALL HAIL ME' OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, EVEN ONCE
AND I DON'T EVEN PLAN ON GOING TO THAT REMOTE DUMP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT, SO GO HOME AND DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME HERE

FINE! SHALL WE!?
DON'T BOTHER MAKING EXCUSES
WHAT'S A COW DOING IN A TEMPLE!?
A COW!?
AAAH! IS IT THAT SHIKA-SENBEI-EATING COW ON TV?
SENSEEI~~ KAMISHINA -KUN'S BEING ATTACKED BY A COW~~!!

Mo
DO DO DO
HMM
GUYS LIKE THESE NEED TO BE BLOWN AWAY WITH MY POWERS, JUST LIKE I DID TO GENROU AND THE MONKEY
Wak
Wak
YIKES
Typ
ZWSSH
KYAAA! THE VALUABLE CULTURAL TREASURES!
Heh!?
SDSH

IF I DID THE SAME THING HERE, LIKE I DID TO ICHIJOU SENSEI'S HOUSE
AAH! I NEARLY FORGOT WHERE I WAS
National Monument
Valuable Cultural Treasures
Exiled to Antarctica
Unearthly Amount of Reparations
Boy A
Expelled from
AH! KAMI-SHINAAA!
DO DO DO
STOO---P!
AH! DON'T RUN AWAY YOU COWARD!
GHTTTTT
DA
HIIIIIIH!!
AH. RIGHT
SENSEI! CALL THE POLICE--

AAAAH!?
WHAT'S WRONG, HEAD PRIEST!?
AWA WA WA
THIS SHOULD BE FAR ENOUGH
Hah
Ha
CRSH
YEH YEH

!?
I'M GONNA TURN YOU INTO SUKIYAKI!!
(JAPANESE BEEF STEW)
FUFUN. READY OR NOT
WSH
DO DO DO
SKT
!
...
SHI~~T! WHY DID IT HAVE TO HAPPEN HOW~~
YOUR POWERS ARE STILL UNSTABLE
?
?
..HUH!?

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT!? DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO FOOL ME
AS I EXPECTED, AN IMPOSTOR WILL ALWAYS BE AN IMPOSTOR!
TAKE THIS!!

DFSE
WSH WSH DSH
POWER DSH
…!?

I KNEW YOU'D BE COMING
GARUDA!!

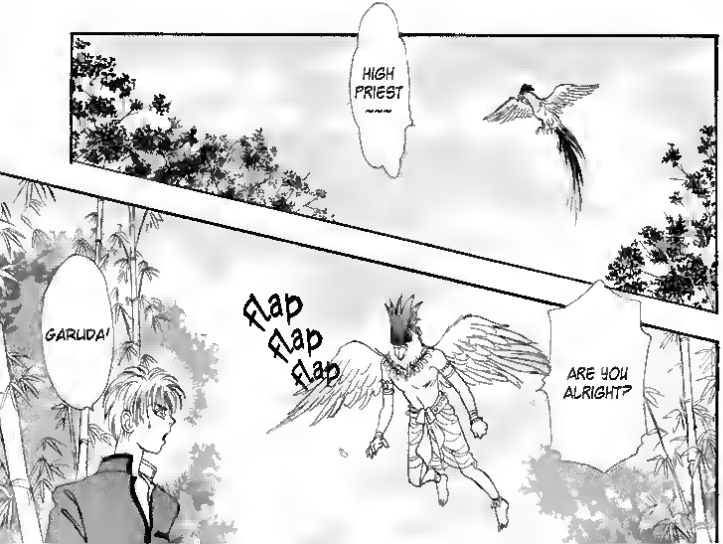
THE KARURA STATUE!?
HA
THE OTHER SEVEN MEMBERS TOO!?

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU GUYS!?
HEY LITTLE ONE
THIS IS THE COMPOUND OF OUR MASTER, SHAKA
DON'T TRY TO CAUSE TROUBLE HERE
FIRST OF ALL, ARE YOU THAT BOY'S
BODY-GUARD?
WHAT~~!? YOU IMPUDENT BASTARD!!

WOAH!
HYA
WATCH OUT!

GRCK
HE-HEY HEY HEY! WHY'D YOU DO THAT TO NATIONAL TREASURE -SAMA
UMM...
YOU STUPID COOOW!!

HUH!?
WHERE'D HE GO?
HM?


HIGH PRIEST ~~~
GARUDA!
flap flap flap
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

LOOKS LIKE THE HEAD BODYGUARD HAS ARRIVED
So..
Sor..
ry..
YOU'RE LATE, YOU SLACKER!!
YOU'RE...!?
DON'T MENTION IT. IT WAS FATED THAT WE WOULD BUMP INTO EACH OTHER HERE
I'M SORRY TO HAVE TROUBLED YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD WITH THIS TERRIBLY MISBEHAVED BOY
OUR GRATITUDES TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD FOR HELPING OUT OUR HIGH PRIEST
Peko
Peko
It's not much but
Thank you
IT'S GOOD FOR BOYS TO BE A LITTLE ENERGETIC, ANYWAY
Aah!
HOW AM I GONNA EXPLAIN ALL THIS!?
That's Science Fiction
While I was on a school trip at the temple the statues talked to me
The Buddhist Statues came to the rescue
The cow in the park attacked
Completely Absurd

I GUESS MY BODY MOVED ON IT'S OWN IN THE LINE OF DUTY TO PROTECT YOU
Pakori
IS YOUR ARM .. ALRIGHT?
SORRY, IT'S MY FAULT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
I'M SURE THAT THE MUSEUM EXPERT WILL MEND IT LATER
BUT..
I'M REALLY SORRY

AND THERE'S NOT EVEN A CRACK
I CAN BEND IT!!
HIGH PRIEST
SUCH A NOBLE DEED
THAT WAS SPLENDID!!
SO WE FINALLY GET TO MEET THE LEGENDARY DARASHAAL HIGH PRIEST AND CELESTIAL GUARDIAN BEAST WE'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT

HOWEVER, IT MIGHT BECOME A PROBLEM IF THAT BOY STAYS HERE ANY LONGER
IT'S BEST FOR HIM TO RETURN TO HIS KINGDOM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
NAAGA -SAMA
WE INTEND TO
WELL, IT'S TIME FOR US TO PART
FARE-WELL
AND GOODBYE

..THEY -'VE VANI-SHED
YOU DID WELL, HIGH PRIEST
"PHEW" THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE
I DON'T HAVE TO PAY REPARATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL TREA-SURES~~
.....

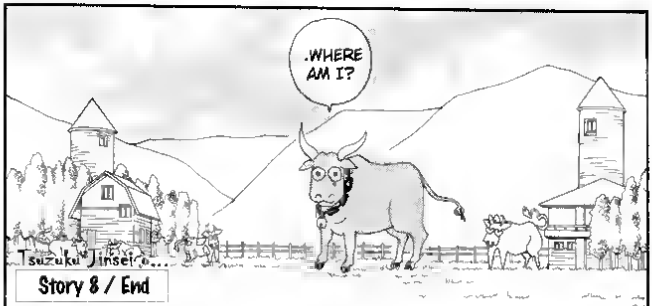
*"LUPIN THE THIRD" POPULAR ANIME CHARACTER WHO'S A MASTER THIEF

H-HEAD PRIEST, TELL US WHAT HAPPENED AGAIN
THE BUDDHIST STATUES HAVE BEEN STOLEN
EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THE HACHI BUSHUU NATIONAL TREASURES
HMMM~~ MAYBE IT WAS AN EXPERT ART MASTER-PIECE THEIF!?
OR A POLITICAL TERROR-IST!?
OR LUPIN THE THIRD!?

Huh!?
SO? WHAT'S BEEN STOLEN!?
AND..
TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
I'M SURE IT WAS COMPLETELY EMPTY JUST NOW
THE GUIDE EVEN SAW IT, RIGHT?
AAH! FUJITO-KUN

ANYWAY, WHERE'S THE COW?
EH!?
. NO IDEA..
N-NO! THIS GUY FLEW ON HIS OWN HERE! I SWEAR!
WHAT A FAITHFUL LITTLE BIRDIE YOU'VE GOT THERE
FROM TOKYO !?
HEHE MORE OR LESS
KAMI-SHINAAA! YOU'RE SAFE!
AH! A BIRD!
KAMI-SHINA-KUN, I GUESS YOU REALLY DID BRING YOUR PET ALONG

--Meanwhile, the Third Assassin--



Story 9
The Labyrinth Capital

--Kyouto (2nd day of the field trip)--
SHUT UP!! I'M LEAVING! DON'T YOU DARE FOLLOW ME!!
YARE YARE
CON MUCHO
HIGH PRIEST~
B-BUT THEN, WHAT IF NAAGA SENDS ANOTHER ASSASSIN LIKE YAMANTAKA TO ATTACK YOU--
CAN'T YOU AT LEAST LEAVE ME ALONE DURING MY SCHOOL TRIP FREE TIME
AND YET HE MAKES A FUSS WHEN WE'RE NOT THERE WHEN HE NEEDS US
HIS HIGHNESS HAS A STUBBORN CHARAC-TER
THOSE TWO NEVER CHANGE

!?
I DON'T PLAN ON GIVING UP JUST YET
Ta
WHAT'S WRONG, GEN-ROU!?
SHOU-GUN!?
WHA-
WHAT'S THIS!?
AH! YOUR HONOR!!

WHAT'S WRONG?
WE CAN'T GO PAST HERE
UOH!
TH-.. THAT--
THIS IS..?
HE HE
LOOKS LIKE I'VE LOST THEM
ETS STORE
DON
UWA

* "-HAN" IS THE KANSAI DIALECT VERSION OF "-SAN"

SHIRENAI GOODS • KYOUMIYAGE • APPI • "KYOUMIYAGE" CD • MEMORIAL DRAMA BOOK • KYOUMIYAGE

I BELIEVE WE MET ONCE AT THE TOKYO TELEVISION STATION
AH, MY APOLOGIES
AND YOU ARE..?
THANK YOU SO MUCH FUJITO ♡
THE COAST IS CLEAR
ABENO SEI... SHUN?
I'M ABENO SEISHUN
AAH! THAT ONMYOU-JI!!*
AAH, SO THAT TIME YOU LOOKED LIKE THIS
ERRR.. WELL, IT'S PART OF THE TRADE
WERE YOU WITH ICHIJOU -SENSEI'S IDEOLOGICAL GROUP?
YEP♬ I WAS ON THE RED TEAM DURING THE SPIRITUAL POWER SPECIALISTS VERSUS THE SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS DEBATE SHOW
N-NO .. I WAS JUST AN ORDINARY SPECTATOR
*ONMYOUJI IS A FORTUNE TELLER IN THE DAYS OF ANCIENT JAPAN AND YES, THAT'S WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE

BY THE WAY
WHAT'S AN 'ONMYOUJI'?
I'LL GIVE A BRIEF OVER-VIEW
IT'S THE TRADE OF FORTUNE TELLING, PUTTING SPELLS ON AMULETS AND CHANTING.
A THOUSAND YEARS AGO IN KYOUTO, IT WAS AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE (AS A SERVANT OF THE IMPERIAL PALACE)
LATELY IT'S FOUNDER, ABENO SEIMEI-HAN, HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT IN NOVELS AND MANGA, CREATING A BOOM FOR THE TRADE
THE CURRENT GENERATION'S HOUSE HEAD MY GRANDFATHER ND FATHER ARE LIKE ME BUT AS A REPRESEN-TATIVE, I'D APPEAL MORE TO THE MASS MEDIA AND THE YOUNG GIRLS. THAT'S WHY I WAS CHOSEN TO BE THE FAMILY SPOKESMAN
WE'VE GOT QUITE A COLORFUL HISTORY, DON'T YOU THINK?
Y-YEAH

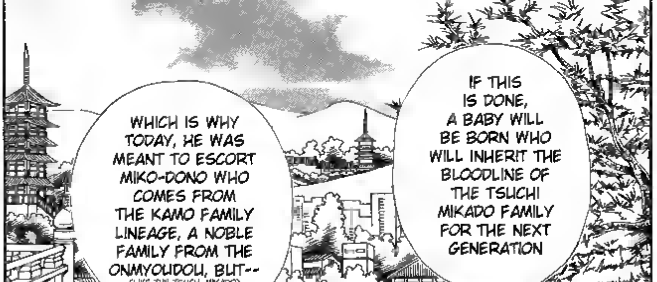
JUST HOW OLD ARE YOU THEN SEISHUN -SAN?
MUST BE GREAT~ YOUTH IN IT'S FULL BLOOM~~
I SEE!
AH, I'M ON A SCHOOL FIELD TRIP
ANYWAY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN KYOUTO, FULITO -HAN?
AT YOUR YOUNG AGE, YOU'RE NOT IN THREAT OF BEING FORCED TO GO FOR A MARRIAGE INTERVIEW
BUT THEN !?
BUT THEN
I'M 18, IN MY THIRD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL
ISN'T THAT QUITE YOUNG
EH? REALLY?
I KNOW! TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND KYOUTO, SHALL I?
AH! BUT IF YOU GO AROUND LOOKING LIKE THAT, YOUR PURSUERS WILL PROBABLY FIND YOU
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
THEN THOSE GUYS FOLLOWING YOU EARLIER WERE...
YES, THE HOUSE DISCIPLES
AND NOW I'M FORCED INTO A POLITICAL MARRIAGE!!
NOT TO MENTION AT THE AGE OF 10 I WAS ALREADY CONSIDERED AS AN OLD GEEZER

WELL .. I GUESS IT MIGHT FOOL YOUR PURSUERS
OOO~H IT FITS PER-FECTLY
I THINK THERE'S A FAIRY TALE JUST LIKE THIS
'THE PRINCE AND THE PAU-PER'!?
THAT WOULD MAKE ME THE PAUPER
HAHAHA NOONE SAID YOU WERE THE PAUPER

HA HA HA
HU HU HU
HUHU.. BUT YOU KNOW
I THINK YOU'RE MORE SUITED FOR THIS POSITION, FUJITO-HAN
AS A REAL ONMYOUJI
Eh!?
THAT DAY AT THE STUDIO THEY WERE SAYING THAT THE SPIRIT MEDIATOR ORIHIME-HAN CALLED UPON PROFESSOR OOGAWARA'S WIFE'S SPIRIT
Giku
BUT IN ACTUAL FACT IT WAS YOU WHO CALLED HER, WASN'T IT?
Uu..
...I THOUGHT SO
MY GRANDFATHER WHO SAW IT ON AIR SAID
'THAT BOY IS THE REAL SPIRIT POWER USER'

EVEN THEN I COULDN'T SEE THR-OUGH IT
I SUPPOSE IT CAN'T BE HELPED THAT I'M CALLED "A FAILURE AS AN HEIR"
N-NO. THAT'S UHH IT WAS BY CHANCE
AND I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE IT, THOUGH I WAS THAT CLOSE TO YOU....
..FAI ..LURE ..?
MY APOLOGIES

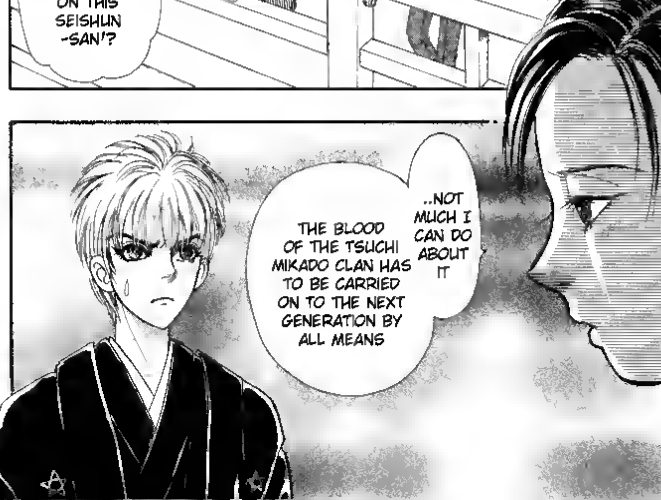
QUITE RIGHT! THE OTHER FAMILY'S DAUGHTER SOMEHOW ACCEPTED OUR EXCUSE THAT HE CAUGHT A "SUDDEN ILLNESS"
BUT IF WORD OF THIS GETS OUT TO THE PUBLIC, THE HONOR OF BOTH FAMILIES WILL BE DISGRACED
MY SUPER-VISION WAS NOT THOROUGH ENOUGH
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN TOO LENIANT ON SEISHUN, NOBUKO -HAN?
Y-YES, I UNDERSTAND. I'M TERRIBLY SORRY THIS HAPPENED
BUT YOU KNOW QUITE WELL THAT SEISHUN HAS NO POWERS WHATSOEVER AS AN ONMYOUJI
FROM NOW ON YOU CAN'T CALL US SELFISH
N-NO. THAT'S.
BEING THE FAMILY'S SOLE CHILD, HE'S BEEN BROUGHT UP IN A PAMPERED ENVIRONMENT SINCE HE WAS YOUNG
WE EVEN LET HIM GO ON TV AND IN MAGAZINES. DON'T YOU THINK HE'S BEEN GIVEN TOO MANY PRIVILEGES?


IF THIS IS DONE, A BABY WILL BE BORN WHO WILL INHERIT THE BLOODLINE OF THE TSUCHI MIKADO FAMILY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION
WHICH IS WHY TODAY, HE WAS MEANT TO ESCORT MIKO-DONO WHO COMES FROM THE KAMO FAMILY LINEAGE, A NOBLE FAMILY FROM THE ONMYOUDOU, BUT--
(LIKE THE TSUCHI MIKADO)

ONMYOUDOU: DISCIPLINE OF FORTUNE TELLING BASED ON THE YIN-YANG THEORY INTRODUCED INTO JAPAN FROM CHINA IN THE 6TH CENTURY

-WELL, YOU SEE
I GUESS THEY'RE HOPING TO "REMIX THE GENES" IN ORDER TO REKINDLE THE ON-MYOUJI ABILITIES *
NO WAY ..!!
YOU'RE NOT A DOG OR A CAT! THIS SHOULDN'T BE LIKE ANIMAL BREEDING
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ON THIS SEISHUN -SAN'?

*"TRUE WORD" USED IS "JYUTSUH" I EXPLAINED IT IN READABLE ENGLISH



ALL THIS "BLOOD" AND HEIR STUFF
ARE THE PEOPLE OF THE PAST THAT IMPORTANT!?
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO'S REINCARNATION I AM
WAS YOUR ANCESTOR THAT AMAZING A GUY!?
THERE'S NOTHING GREAT ABOUT A "HIGH PRIEST"!!
FUU.. ..TO -HAN
BUT... ABENO SEIMEI WAS A GREAT ONMYOUJI
I GUESS YOU WOULD CALL HIM A CHARISMATIC ESPER NOWADAYS
HE WAS HALF-HUMAN, HALF-FOX
FOX?

IF YOU MISS ME DEARLY, COME AND SEEK ME
IN THE SHINODA FOREST OF IZUMI
AT THE KUZUNOHA TREE
NOTE: THIS IS A TRUE JAPANESE LEGEND THE WAKA POEM UP THERE IS VERY POPULAR
THE TWO FELL IN LOVE AND ABENO SEIMEI WAS BORN
ONE DAY, A YOUTH SAVED HER LIFE, TO WHICH THE FOX TOOK THE FORM OF A HUMAN WOMAN
THERE LIVED AN ALBINO FOX IN THE SHINODA FOREST IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF KYOUTO
NOTE: ALBINO FOXES ARE CONSIDERED MAGICAL IN JAPAN
GRIEVED, HIS MOTHER RETURNED TO THE FOREST ALONE
HOWEVER, THE FOX ACCIDENTALLY REVEALED HER TRUE FORM TO THE 7 YEAR OLD SEIMEI
ISN'T THAT JUST A FAIRY TALE MADE UP BY THE HUMAN DECESSORS?
THIS MELANCHOLIC SEPARATION SCENE OF MOTHER AND CHILD IS THE NUMBER ONE HIGHLIGHT OF EVERY KABUKI AND (CLASSICAL DRAMA) JOURURI (BALAD DRAMA) ABOUT IT~~
SEIMEI, WHO CHASED AFTER HIS MOTHER BECAUSE OF HIS MOTHER POWERS AND THE FOX WHO RETRACTED HERSELF, ANXIOUS FOR HER CHILD'S FUTURE

Scanned-hand
info from Hayu

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF THESE STORIES MAY BE A LITTLE SKEWED..
..WELL, THAT'S WHY
SO THEY'D IMMEDIATELY BLAME IT ON DEMONS OR THE LIKE
Splish
THE PEOPLE OF THE PAST WERE WEARY OF STRANGE PHENOMENA BEYOND THEIR COMPREHENSION
AND ENVIED THOSE WITH EXTRAORDINARY ABILITIES
SEISHUN-SAN...
..I KNOW, BUT
I DON'T MIND IF IT'S FOXES OR DEMONS
IT'S JUST GREAT TO HAVE THE ONE-AND-ONLY ABENO SEIMEI'S BLOOD FLOWING THROUGH ME
...IS WHAT I SERIOUSLY FEEL
I REALLY PITY MY MOTHER
BUT PUTTING ME ASIDE
..A-HA..
EH?
SHE CARRIED THE WHOLE FAMILY'S HOPES WHEN SHE GOT MARRIED
BUT THEN SHE COULD ONLY GIVE BIRTH ONE CHILD...

SHE WAS ALWAYS BELITTLED
NOT TO MENTION THAT ONE CHILD WAS LABELED A 'FAILURE'
AND SHE WAS RIDICULED BY THE SENIOR WOMEN OF THE FAMILY
MY MOTHER'S THE SAME
MY
WHEN MY FATHER WHO WAS ALWAYS DOING AS HE PLEASED EVENTUALLY WENT MISSING
SHE WAS BROUGHT ALL ALONE TO FOREIGN LANDS
AND I'M SURE IT WAS DISHEARTENING
AND THEN FINALLY
IT MIGHT BECOME A PROBLEM IF THAT BOY STAYS HERE ANY LONGER
MOREOVER, DUE TO MY POWERS, SHE WAS DRAGGED INTO TROUBLE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS
AND STRANGE PEOPLE WOULD KEEP COMING, ONE AFTER ANOTHER

FULITO -HAN
BAM
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
IT'S NOT LIKE..
IT'S NOT LIKE I WANTED THIS POWER..
BAM
WHERE SHOULD WE GO FROM HERE

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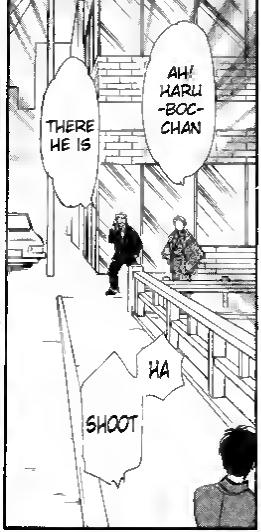

• SEISHUN HAS THE KANJI FOR "HARU" (SPRING) IN IT & FRIENDLY MEANS YOUNG SIR IN A FRIENDLY SENSE

*GION = KYOTO'S ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

TAP
HUH!?
THIS IS...
TOUJI ~~!?
BUT THAT'S 3KM AWAY FROM GION~~
Eh!?
BUT.. WE JUST WENT ROUND THAT CORNER AND-
BATA
BATA

tok
THIS CAN'T BE
COULD IT BE
THIS TIME WE'RE IN SHINKYOU-GOKU!?
KYAAA
WHERE ARE WE~!?
WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN XX TOWN, BUT
HEY YOU! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
..BUT I'M SURE THE LIGHT WAS GREEN JUST NOW...
MY POWERS ARE OUT OF CONTROL AGAIN!?
SHIIIIT..!! DON'T TELL ME MY...

scans | TsukiGoKim
trans / edits | ezrameifa

MAYU -DONO
WHAT'S THAT?
THAT'S STRANGE
A TRACKING DEVICE
I PLACED IT ON FUJITO'S UNIFORM BEFOREHAND
ANYWAY, HIS MOVEMENTS ARE VERY IRREGULAR
HIGH PRIEST
WHERE ARE YOU-!?
IT'S JUST LIKE TELEPORTATION
SHIT
IT'S AS IF THERE'S AN INVISIBLE WALL HERE
Grrrr
TH-THAT'S THE STREET WHERE HIS HONOR STRAYED AWAY FROM US IN THE BEGINNING
HANUMAN! WHERE'S GENROU!?
flap flap
GARUDA -SAMA

I CAN'T TAKE THIS
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO USE BRUTE FORCE
DEEEEEI

NGH!
!?

I'D LIKE TO SEE A MOVIE
ANOTHER TASK FOR THE SHIN-SENGUMI
YAA! YAA! I'LL GET YOU
PAR-DON ME
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING!?

ARE WE HEADING TO--!?
WHERE THE HECK
AAAAH
URK

WH
WHERE
ARE WE
--!?
HA
GASA

MOTHER!?
AH...

THE MOTHER FOX OF SHINODA--!?

!!
OW
WH-WHERE ARE WE THIS TIME?

WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS
AH HIGH PRIEST!!

*JAPANESE CONSIDER THE NORTHEAST CORNER AS THE 'KI MON' OR 'DEMON GATE' WHERE DANGER AND EVIL IS BELIEVED TO FLOW FROM
**SHIKIGAMI | LITERALLY, 'PAPER GODS' PAPER IS FOLDED THEN ENCHANTED BY AN ONMYOUJI TO TAKE ON A PHYSICAL FORM
WE'RE AT THE ICHIJOU-MODORI BRIDGE
IN THE NORTH-EAST OF ANCIENT KYOUTO, NAMELY IN THE NORTH-EAST CORNER
A 'DEMON GATE'* IS SAID TO EXIST
GENROU DESTROYED THE BARRIER AROUND THIS CAUSEWAY OF PANDEMONIUM, WHICH WAS SEALED A LONG TIME AGO
DAAAA
THESE GUYS ARE END-LESS
INDEED
MAYU
Seishun Vision
YOUR HONOR~~ PLEASE DO SOME-THING~~
B-BUT I CAN'T
TCHI-
SHIT
SEISHUN -SAN, IT'S TOO EARLY TO FEEL SAFE
EE~~H SO YOU POSSESS 'SHIKIGAMI'S** AS WELL, FUJITO-HAN
I WONDER WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST

*KAMAITACHI: MYSTERIOUS CREATURES THAT SWIFTLY ATTACK WITH WAL-TITLE CUTS ATTACK. WARNING: MAGIC CIRCLE IS USED IN JAPAN TO PREVENT KAMAITACHI FROM ENTERING HOUSES. SELECT

臨
RIN-
兵
PYOU-
闘
TOU
者
SHA-
皆
KAI-
陣
JIN-
列
RETSU-
在
ZAI-
前
ZEN
HA
喝
KA-

Haaaa
Zaaah
THEY'RE GONE..
AH.
GRAND-FATHER!!
GEH
THEN HE'S THE ELDER ONMYOUJI!?
HMPH

OOH. YOU ARE--
AH SO-
SORRY YOU SEE I.. THAT IS TO SAY..
HEY! YOU APOLOGIZE, TOO
I'M REALLY SORRY
IT'S MY FAULT FOR DRAGGING FUUTO-HAN AROUND
M-MOTHER
HUH!? THE WOMAN FROM BEFORE
SEI-SHUN!
SEISHUN ARE YOU HURT!?
YOU'RE NOT WOUNDED ARE YOU!?
MOTHER

NO!
RIGHT NOW I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GETTING MARRIED
SEI-SHUN!?
TH-THEN SHALL WE FIX ANOTHER DATE?
I'M FINE
I ALSO WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR MAKING A FUSS OVER THE MARRIAGE INTERVIEW
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO TRY MY HAND AT INSPECTING THE SCIENCE BEHIND ANCIENT FORTUNE TELLING
SEISHUN -SAN...
WHILE READING THE CALENDAR OF THE ONMYOUDOU, (WAY OF THE ONMYOUJI) MY INTEREST IN ASTRONOMY GREW--
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS FOR A LONG TIME NOW AND WHAT I REALLY WANT IS TO STUDY ASTRONOMY IN UNIVERSITY
I HAVE SOMEWHERE I WANT TO GO

SEISHUN, BUT YOU'RE...
I UNDER-STAND! I WILL PROTECT THE TSUCHI MIKADO BLOODLINE
THE ONLY THING IS
I WILL FIND MY OWN MARRIAGE PARTNER, SO WORRY NOT
THE BLOOD OF THE ALBINO FOX'S DAUGHTER
IT'S ALRIGHT I'M SURE IT FLOWS WITHIN ME
I UNDER-STAND
YOU MAY DO AS YOU WISH, SEISHUN
I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME EVER THAT YOU VOICED YOUR OPINIONS
FATHER !?
GRAND-FATHER.

I MAY BE OLD, BUT I'M STILL GOING STRONG
AND I DON'T PLAN TO RETIRE ANY TIME SOON, SO DON'T WORRY
GRAND-FATHER
IT LOOKS LIKE SEISHUN -SAN HAS FOUND HIS DIRECTION IN LIFE
WHERE SHOULD I GO--!?
BUT I--
Genichi's getting more white hair
IT'S WAY PAST CURFEW HOURS, KAMISHI-NAAAA
GET BACK TO THE HOTEL
Tsuzuku-Jinsei-o...
Story 9 / End

Story 10
Partner

SHUT UP, WILL YOU, GARUDA
SHOOT
I'M LATE FOR THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS
BATS
BATS
YARE YARE. IF YOU HAD JUST WOKEN UP 5 MINUTES EARLIER YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE IN SUCH A HURRY, YOU KNOW
OR I'LL COOK YOU INTO BIRD STEW!!

HM!?
WHAT'S THAT OLD MAN DOING!?
HIGH PRIEST! THE BUS HAS ARRIVED
I KNOW, I KNOW

SO I UNDERSTAND YAMANTAKA HAS FAILED?
Y-YES
SO? WHERE IS HE NOW?
I probably won't be able to go back till spring
HE'S ON THE NORTHMOST ISLAND IN JAPAN (HOKKAIDO)
HEH. I NEVER EXPECTED MUCH FROM HIM ANYWAY
I PRESUME KAMISHINA FUUTO DID THIS?
SO
YES

scans : TsukiGoKim
trans / edits : ezrameifa

THE ABILITY OF FORE-SIGHT AND HEALING
SPIRI-TUALISM
AND PURIFYING SOULS
NOT TO MENTION THE POWER TO BLOW GENROU SHOUGUN AND HANJIMAN AWAY WITH HIS SURGE OF KI
IT ALSO SEEMS THAT HE TELEPORTED YAMANTAKA OVER 1000KM AWAY IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE
AND THEN THERE'S THE OCCURRENCE A FEW DAYS AGO WHERE, ALTHOUGH FOR A SHORT WHILE
HE TURNED BACK A THOUSAND YEARS UPSTREAM IN TIME TO A PREVIOUS ERA
WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE LEVEL OF HIS POWER IS RISING
BU-
BUT THEN
YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT HE CAN'T MANIPULATE HIS POWERS OF HIS OWN FREE WILL
.....

THE BOY THAT GARUDA DISCOVERED SEEMS MORE LIKE THE TRUE HI-
BEING ABLE TO MASTER SUCH TECHNIQUES WITHOUT TRAINING IS NOT SOMETHING A NORMAL CHILD CAN DO
THOUGH HIS GRASP OF ABILITY IS INCONSISTENT
ENOUGH!!!
N-NO WE NEVER--
TRYING TO MOCK ATISHA -SAMA WHO WAS BROUGHT IN BY NAAGA -SAMA, HIMSELF!?
ARE YOU WRETCHES

IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN ALLOW ME, LAMIA, TO GO NEXT
AND I'LL TEAR THE FAKE HIGH PRIEST AND THE TRAITOR GARUDA TO PIECES

AAH. I'M STARVED
MAYBE I SHOULD GO GET SOME RAMEN (NOODLES)
HIGH PRIEST! WOULDN'T YOU VIOLATE THE SCHOOL REGULATION THAT STATES THAT YOU CAN'T ENTER A RES-TARAUNT AT THE END OF SCHOOL?
DAMMIT YOU'RE ALWAYS SO FUSSY
-HUH!?
THE OLD MAN I SAW THIS MORNING!?
BY
BY
BY

BETTER NOT MAKE EYE CONTACT
TSK
TSK
TSK
BU
BU
BU
syta
syta
syta
HIGH PRIEST!
Va~~ah! I can't stand it!!
ガバッ
syta
syta
ぴくぴく
ぴくぴく
ぴくぴく

HEY GRAMPS
YOU WERE HERE SINCE THE MORNING WEREN'T YOU
..HA?
I GUESS HE'S DEAF
DID YOU LOSE SOMETHING IN THIS AREA!?
LOSE.. SOME-THING?
WELL..?
..OKAY THEN, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
WHERE'S YOUR HOUSE?
..IS IT NEARBY?
....WHAT'S A HOUSE?
Heart broken
PERHAPS HE'S GONE SENILE!?
AAA--H WHY DO I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF IN SUCH TROUBLESOME SITUATIONS!?

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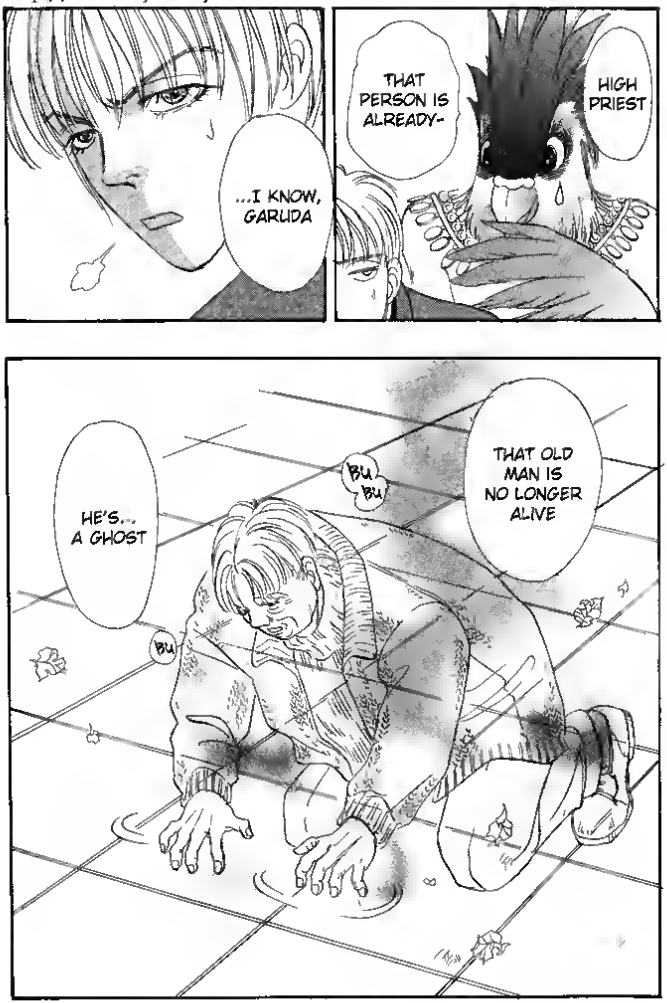
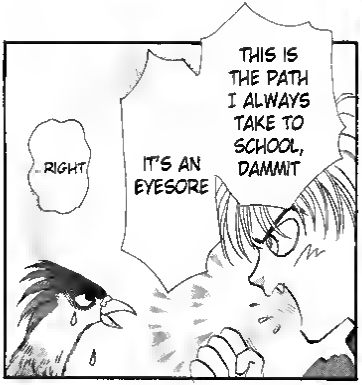



THIS IS THE PATH I ALWAYS TAKE TO SCHOOL, DAMMIT
IT'S AN EYESORE
RIGHT

BUT IF WE LEAVE HIM LIKE THIS
HE'LL KEEP DOING THAT ON AND ON, WON'T HE?

ALRIGHT, I'M GONNA SEND YOU TO HEAVEN
COME ON, GRAMPS, STAND UP
Huh?

SO, YEAH UM
I WAS THINKING OF DOING

HIGH PRIEST.. ♡

SOMETHING LIKE THAT WHOOSHY THING THAT MADE AYANA FLY UP INTO THE SKY
A SOUL PURIFI-CATION TECH-NIQUE, WAS IT?

I can't
GRA-MPS?
I can't go there yet
Soul Purification?
Heaven
EXACTLY, I'LL SEND YOU TO HEAVEN
I have to go see Misako-san
There's an important thing I must do here
MISA-KO?
AWW GEEZ, YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS
AFFEC-TION~~?
I sense romance~?
I SEE
HE'S A GHOST TIED TO THE EARTH FROM STRONG LINGERING AFFECTIONS TOWARDS THIS WOMAN NAMED MISAKO
SO YOU MEAN THAT IF HIS AFFECTIONS FOR THIS WOMAN DON'T DISAPPEAR, HE CAN'T GO TO HEAVEN
Jibaku?

*JIBAKU MEANS TIED TO THE EARTH, BUT ALSO CAN MEAN SUICIDE BOMBING USING A DIFFERENT KANJI COMBINATION

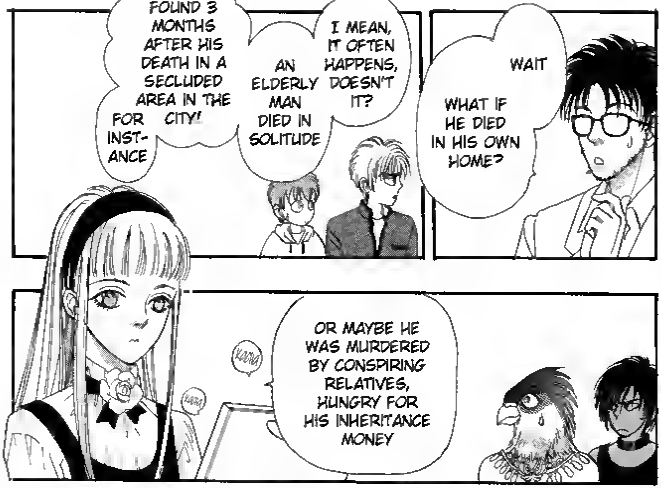
Thank you
Thank you, sonny
DON'T YOU WANNA GET THIS OVER WITH AND COMPLETE THAT 'IMPORTANT THING' YOU MUST DO?
So-.. sonny?
WELL, LET'S GO MEET THIS PERSON THEN
MY NAME'S FUUTO
DON'T CALL ME SONNY
How noble to be this far high Priest♡
WHA~~T!?
I KNEW YOU WERE A SENILE OLD MAN!!
A..ANYWAY, W-WHAT'S THIS TASK YOU HAVE TO DO?
SO? WHERE'S THIS WOMAN'S HOUSE
AH, IS SHE YOUR WIFE?
IF THAT'S SO, THEN SHE STAYS AT THE SAME ADDRESS
ahh I can't seem to recall what it is
an address
what's that?

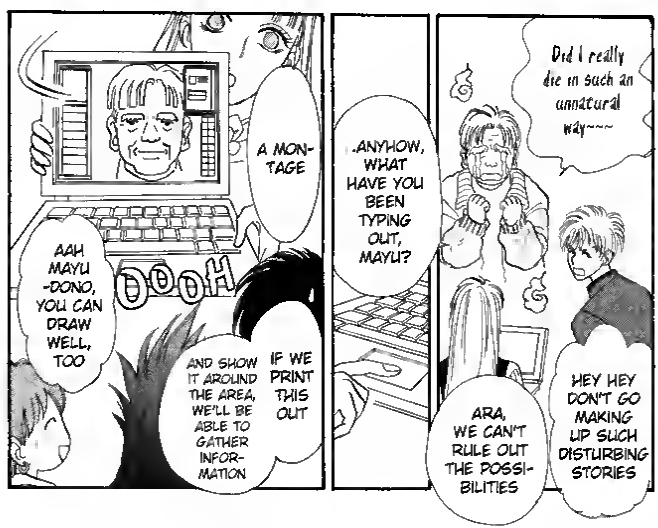
MAMA, WHO'S THAT BOY TALKING TO?
SSH! DON'T STARE AT HIM
HE'S BEEN TALKING TO HIMSELF FOR A WHILE
WE SHOULD LEAVE HIM ALONE KIDS WHO SNAP THESE DAYS ARE SCARY
Ha
Normal people can't see him
DANGE-ROUS BOY A!?
HAVE I BECOME
Gui
FOLLOW ME, GRAMPS
A-ANYWAY, THIS ISN'T THE PLACE TO TALK
Aa~h

It's a huge dog~~~
GENROU, CALM DOWN
YOU'RE SCARING THE OLD MAN
I'M NOT A DOG, DAMMIT
I'M A WOLF
WHAT!?
THAT FILTHY OLD MAN!?

AAH! A GHOST AS A HOUSE-GUEST!?
BAKA
Rats! Rats!
DOCTOR, THE GUEST IS OVER HERE
NICE TO MEET YOU, I'M ICHIJOU
Peko
Peko
--I SEE
SO YOU CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE NAME 'MISAKO'

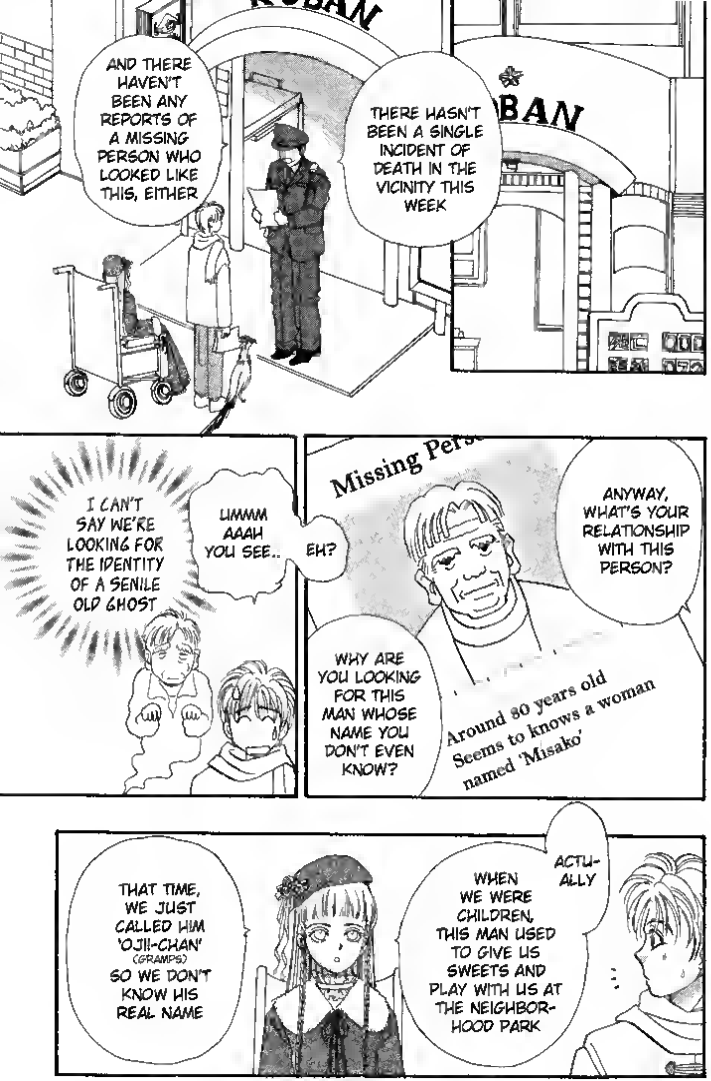
SO YOU CAN'T REMEMBER ANY OF THOSE THINGS
Yeah
YOUR OWN NAME, YOUR ADDRESS
WHEN, WHERE AND HOW YOU DIED
I GUESS WE SHOULD JUST GIVE UP
THE ONLY LEAD WE HAVE IS THE NAME "MISAKO" AND WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE OR WHO SHE IS
YOU'RE GREAT, MAYU -DONO
OOH I SEE
WHICH MEANS HE MUST HAVE DIED SOMETIME WITHIN THOSE 5 DAYS
BEFORE THAT, THE OLD MAN'S GHOST WASN'T AROUND THAT AREA
SINCE YOU WERE AWAY ON A SCHOOL TRIP AND A SHORT BREAK, IT'S BEEN 5 DAYS SINCE YOU HAVEN'T GONE BY THAT PATH
INQUIRE WITH THE POLICE OR THE FIRE STATION AND YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND OUT HIS IDENTITY
IF THERE'S BEEN REPORTS OF A 'TRAFFIC ACCIDENT' OR A 'WANDERING MAN SUDDENLY COLLAPSING' IN THE NEIGH-BORHOOD


FOUND 3 MONTHS AFTER HIS DEATH IN A SECLUDED AREA IN THE CITY! FOR INST-ANCE
AN ELDERLY MAN DIED IN SOLITUDE
I MEAN, IT OFTEN HAPPENS, DOESN'T IT?
WAIT
WHAT IF HE DIED IN HIS OWN HOME?
OR MAYBE HE WAS MURDERED BY CONSPIRING RELATIVES, HUNGRY FOR HIS INHERITANCE MONEY


A MON-TAGE
AAH MAYU -DONO, YOU CAN DRAW WELL, TOO
DOOH
AND SHOW IT AROUND THE AREA, WE'LL BE ABLE TO GATHER INFOR-MATION
IF WE PRINT THIS OUT
.ANYHOW, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN TYPING OUT, MAYU?
Did I really die in such an unnatural way~~~
HEY HEY DON'T GO MAKING UP SUCH DISTURBING STORIES
ARA, WE CAN'T RULE OUT THE POSSI-BILITIES

MADAM
WHERE ARE YOU, MADAM?
I'M HERE, SHIMADA -SAN
AAH! GOOD MORNING
ARE YOU FEELING BETTER?
NOT REALLY.. SAME AS ALWAYS
THE WEATHER IS GREAT TODAY
WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT FOR SOME FRESH AIR?
I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR THAT

VICTOR
I WAN'T TO MEET YOU ONE MORE TIME !!
LOCKING YOURSELF UP IN YOUR ROOM ISN'T GOOD FOR YOUR BODY
YOU CAN'T JUST NEGLECT YOUR FRIENDS FROM THE HOBBY CIRCLE YOU'VE JUST BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH
I KNOW
BUT.. I CAN'T
POFF
I CAN'T IF I'M NOT WITH HIM
MA-DAM

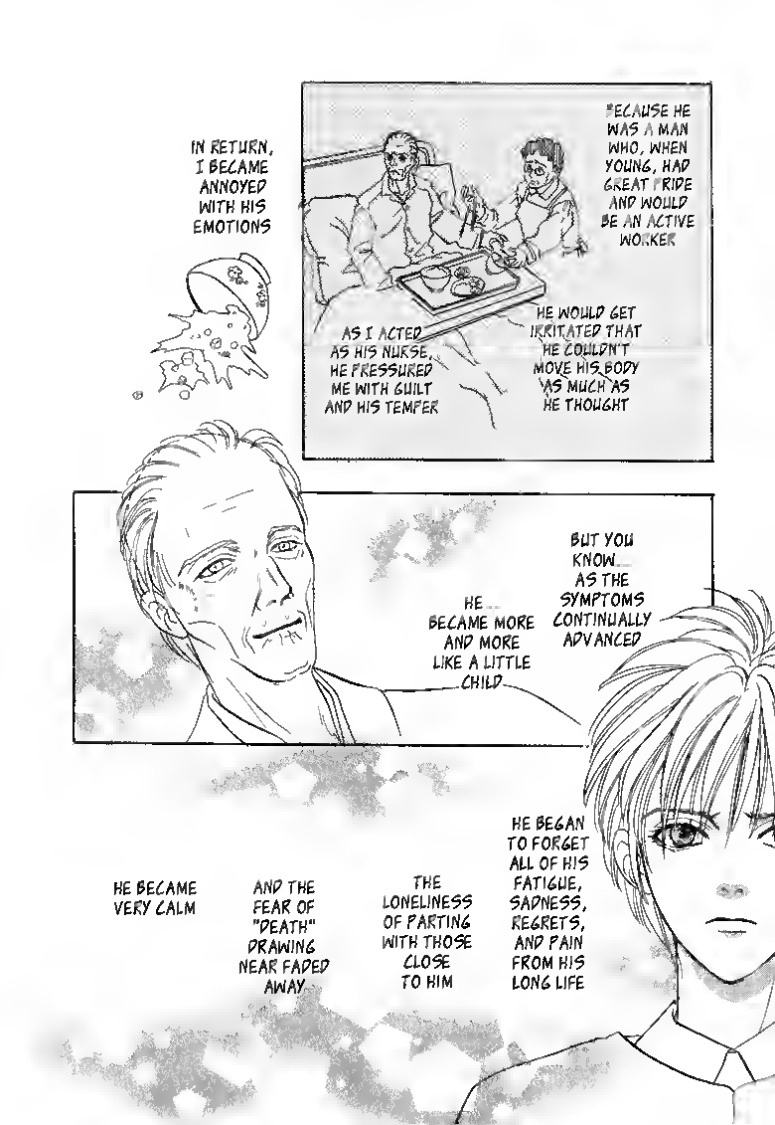

KOBAN
AND THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY REPORTS OF A MISSING PERSON WHO LOOKED LIKE THIS, EITHER
THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE INCIDENT OF DEATH IN THE VICINITY THIS WEEK
KOBAN
I CAN'T SAY WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE IDENTITY OF A SENILE OLD GHOST
UMMM AAAH YOU SEE..
EH?
Missing Pers
ANYWAY, WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS PERSON?
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THIS MAN WHOSE NAME YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW?
Around 80 years old
Seems to knows a woman named 'Misako'
THAT TIME, WE JUST CALLED HIM 'OJII-CHAN' (GRAMPS) SO WE DON'T KNOW HIS REAL NAME
WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN, THIS MAN USED TO GIVE US SWEETS AND PLAY WITH US AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
ACTUALLY

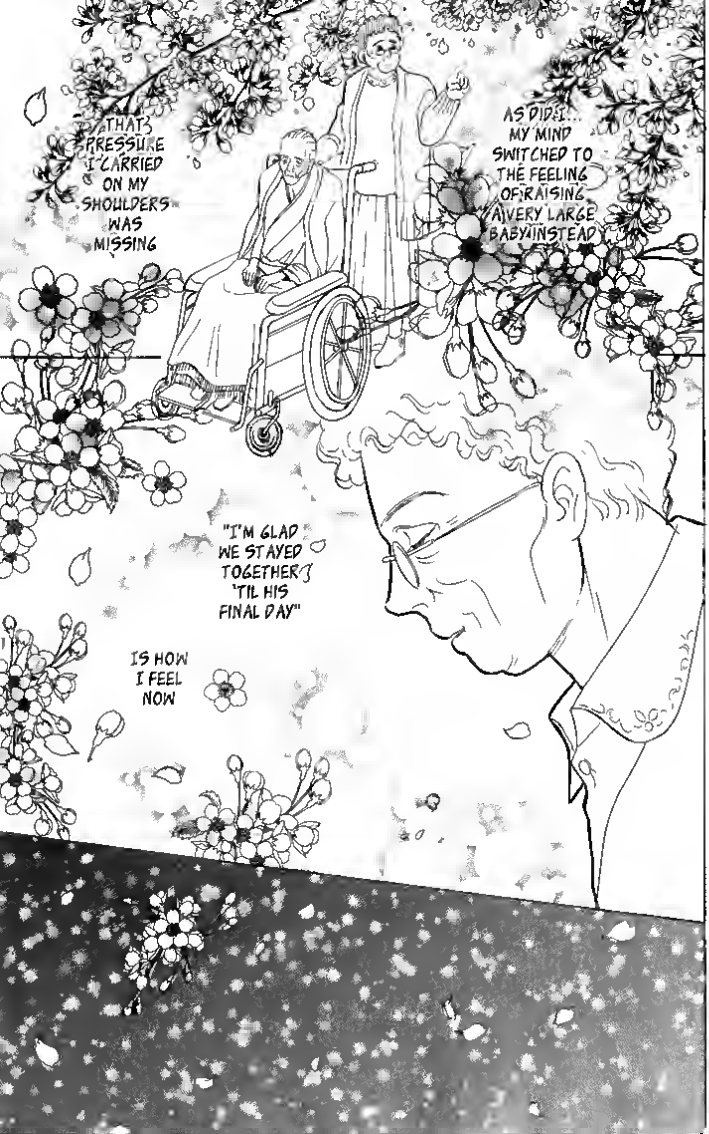
SO IF YOU CATCH ANY NEWS OF HIM PLEASE LET US KNOW MR POLICEMAN ♡
I... I SEE
AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AT THE PARK THESE FEW DAYS, SO WE'RE A LITTLE WORRIED
He was very willing to help
WILL DO
Just as we would expect from Hagi-kun
A WELL TIMED SMILE CAN ACCOMPLISH JUST ABOUT ANYTHING
IT'S AS THE DOCTOR SAID
NICE
NICE

THERE'S NO SIGN OF A FUNERAL HELD FOR THE OJII-CHAN (GRAMPS)
WE WENT TO MANY HOSPITALS AND FUNERAL PARLORS, BUT
AH YOUR HONOR
HANUMAN, GENROU
THIS IS SO TEDIOUS
IF YOUR GHOST BODY GAVE OFF A SCENT
MY NOSE WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO PINPOINT THE LOCATION OF YOUR HOUSE IN A JIFFY
I'm sorry for troubling you
THE SENSE OF SMELL
IF I'M... IF I'M REALLY THE TRUE 'HIGH PRIEST' AS THEY SAY
WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL POWER WOULD I USE IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION

I SAY ALL THESE THINGS ABOUT 'SENDING HIM TO HEAVEN'
MEETING MISAKO-SAN' AND GIVING THE OLD MAN SHORT-LIVED JOY AND STUFF
BUT, IN THE END, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ON MY OWN
Am I really just dragging Hayn down?
I'M REALLY UNCOOL, AREN'T I?
FUUTO!
LET'S GO TO THIS HOUSE NEXT
HM? SURE
HIGH PRIEST?

THIS OLD WOMAN LIVES HERE ALONE AFTER HER HUSBAND PASSED ON BEFORE HER
HER NAME IS "MISAKO"
I don't recognize this lady, either
NOO... MY HUSBAND DIDN'T HAVE THIS SORT OF FACE
THOUGH MY HUSBAND DID USE TO WANDER AROUND AND CAUSE A RUCKUSS A LOT
NOT TO MENTION, HE PASSED AWAY A YEAR AGO
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I THOUGHT "I MAY AS WELL JUST MAKE THIS A DOUBLE SUICIDE"
No way
THAT WAS WHEN THE SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA BEGAN TO APPEAR
NO SINGLE WORD CAN DESCRIBE HOW AWFUL THOSE DAYS WERE


IN RETURN, I BECAME ANNOYED WITH HIS EMOTIONS
BECAUSE HE WAS A MAN WHO, WHEN YOUNG, HAD GREAT PRIDE AND WOULD BE AN ACTIVE WORKER
AS I ACTED AS HIS NURSE, HE PRESSURED ME WITH GUILT AND HIS TEMPER
HE WOULD GET IRRITATED THAT HE COULDN'T MOVE HIS BODY AS MUCH AS HE THOUGHT
BUT YOU KNOW... AS THE SYMPTOMS CONTINUALLY ADVANCED
HE... BECAME MORE AND MORE LIKE A LITTLE CHILD
HE BECAME VERY CALM
AND THE FEAR OF "DEATH" DRAWING NEAR FADED AWAY
THE LONELINESS OF PARTING WITH THOSE CLOSE TO HIM
HE BEGAN TO FORGET ALL OF HIS FATIGUE, SADNESS, REGRETS, AND PAIN FROM HIS LONG LIFE

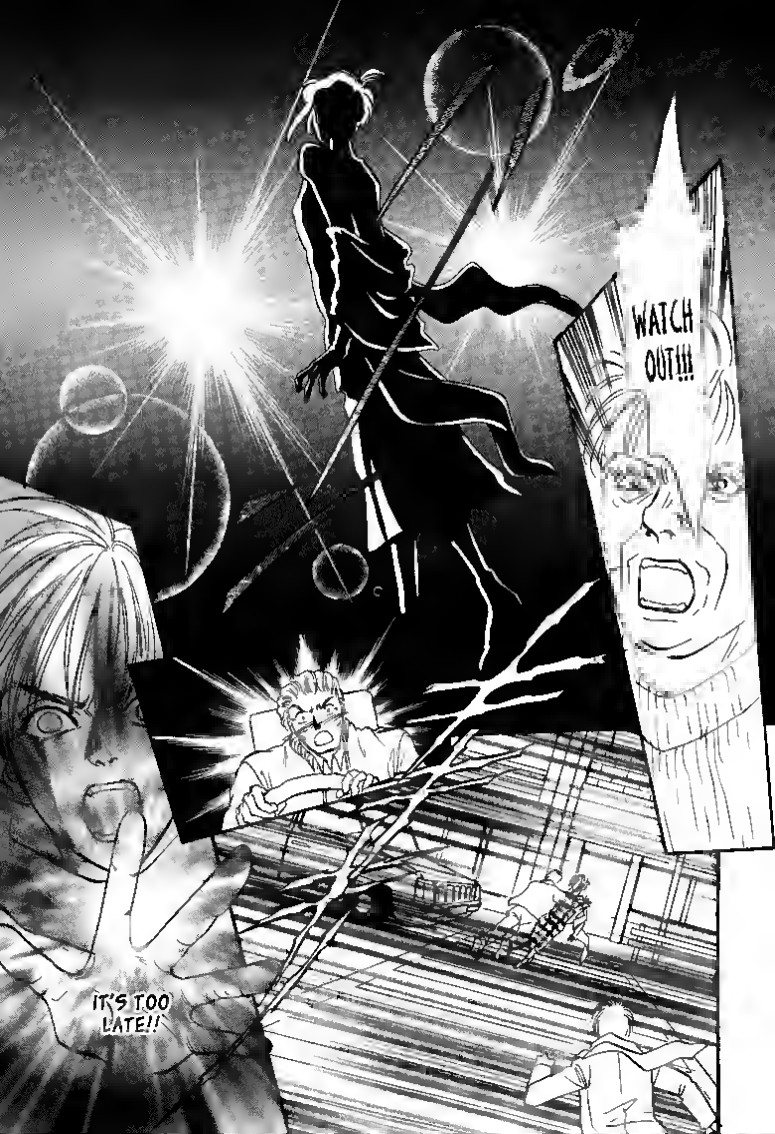

THAT PRESSURE I CARRIED ON MY SHOULDERS WAS MISSING
AS DID I... MY MIND SWITCHED TO THE FEELING OF RAISING A VERY LARGE BABY INSTEAD
"I'M GLAD WE STAYED TOGETHER 'TIL HIS FINAL DAY"
IS HOW I FEEL NOW

R
R
R

LATELY HIS EYESIGHT, HEARING AND LIMBS HAVE DETERIORATED, SO HE USUALLY DOZES OFF FOR MOST OF THE DAY
SO I DIDN'T THINK HE COULD'VE GOTTEN VERY FAR, BUT--
YES, I DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY YOU UNNECESSARILY
TOGETHER WITH THE LOCAL POLICE, WE'VE BEEN SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR HIM.
CLICK
VICTOR!!
MADAM?
WHERE'D SHE GO?
BZZT!
BZZT!

Thanks for your hard work
RIGHT. GOOD JOB, GUYS
THEN LET'S CONTINUE TOMORROW
I'M HUNGRY
GRA-MPS!?
BA
AH!
BA
HEY! GRAMPS!?
Misako -san!!

GARUDA! GO TELL MAYU AND THE REST
AS YOU WISH
So it was up the ghosts' work?
WHAT'S WITH THAT FRANTIC DASH!?
SSSH
yoro
Misako -san!!


WATCH OUT!!!
IT'S TOO LATE!!

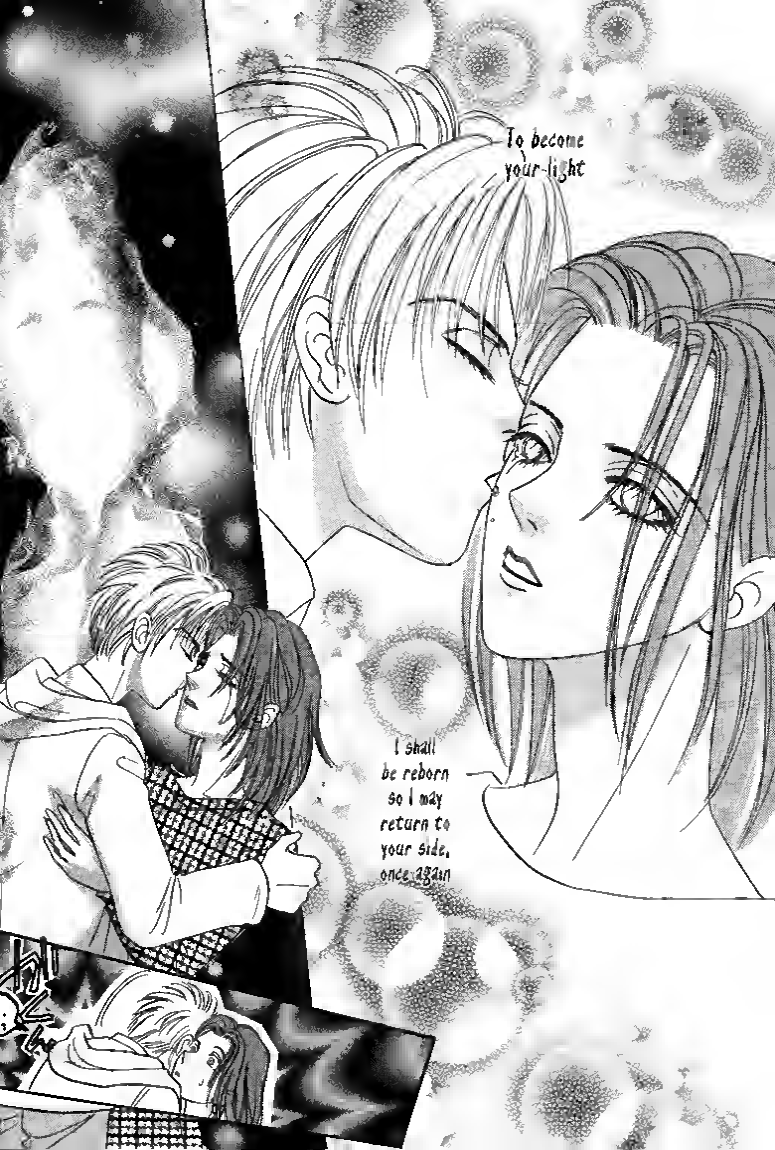
ふわ

VUUUUM
!?
!?
H-HEY..
PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS NEXT TIME
Eh!?
.....
Misako -san!!

Eeeeh
IS THAT THE WOMAN JII-CHAN'S BEEN LOOKING FOR!?
I THOUGHT SHE'D BE SOMEONE A LOT OLDER
Are you alright, Misako -san!!
.....
Misako -san
Eh!
ARE YOU OKAY?
AH... YES
GUESS THERE'S NO CHOICE
This can't be...
We finally get to meet, but...
HERE
IT'S FUTILE, GRAMPS
SHE CAN'T SEE YOU, NOR CAN SHE HEAR YOUR VOICE
?

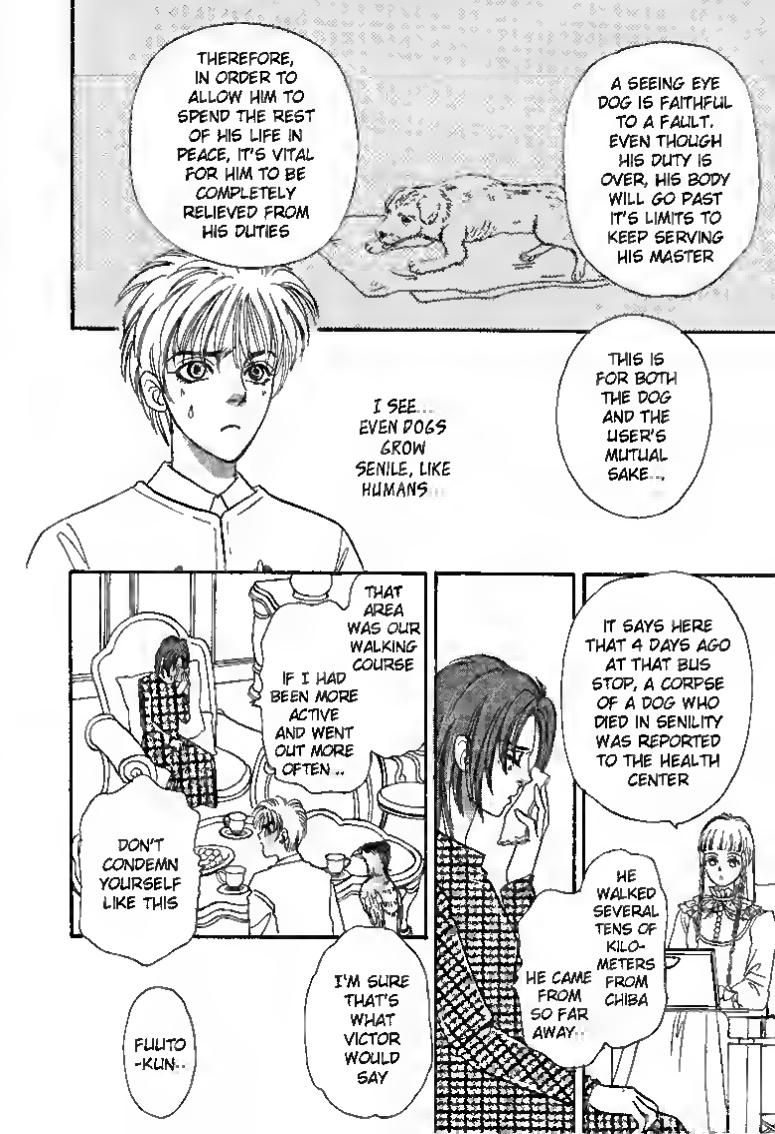
Misako -san
It's me.. Victor
BUT... THAT CAN'T BE..!!
VIC- VICTOR
SSH
VIC- TOR!?
THAT JII-CHAN WAS A WESTER- NER!?
The one you're indebted to and wanted to meet no matter. I sneaked out of Murakami-san's house
But I'm the genuine Victor
I'm sure you're in shock
Currently, I'm borrowing this boy's body

OOOOOH
DON
VICTOR
IT'S REALLY YOU!!
"She's been rejecting every partner she meets," they said
I overheard the conversation between Murakami-san and his wife
Ever since I left your side, you moped till no end
BUT.. BUT THEN..
MY FEELINGS CAN'T BE CHANGED SO EASILY
YOU WERE MY ONLY CANDLE IN THE DARK
Leave your feelings for me at that
You have a lot longer to go in life
So please seek new friends as soon as possible and actively go outdoors
If you do that, I'm sure we'll be able to meet again someday
VICTOR?


To become your light
I shall be reborn so I may return to your side, once again

SOMEHOW, IT SEEMS LIKE HIS 'IMPORTANT TASK' IS COMPLETE
!?
NOW IT'S A GIRL'S VOICE..?
ARE YOU THERE?
WA WA WA
I'M REALLY SORRY
Hiss
.....
HIGH PRIEST ...?
COULD SOMEONE
PLEASE HAND ME MY CANE?

A DOG ~~!?
YES..
VICTOR WAS MY FIRST SEEING EYE DOG
I WAS DOING SPIRITUALISM ON THE GHOST OF A DEAD DOG. YEESH
THE LIFESPAN OF A LABRADOR RETRIEVER IS ABOUT 10-12 YEARS, SO IT WAS ALREADY TIME FOR VICTOR AS A SEEING EYE DOG TO RETIRE
HE WAS MY EYES FOR 8 YEARS. WE WERE INSEPERABLE
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES OF THE J.G.D.A..
(JAPANESE GUIDE DOG ASSOCIATION)
HALF A YEAR AGO, HE MOVED INTO A VOLUNTEER HOME FOR SUPPORTING RETIRED SEEING EYE DOGS


THEREFORE, IN ORDER TO ALLOW HIM TO SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE IN PEACE, IT'S VITAL FOR HIM TO BE COMPLETELY RELIEVED FROM HIS DUTIES
A SEEING EYE DOG IS FAITHFUL TO A FAULT. EVEN THOUGH HIS DUTY IS OVER, HIS BODY WILL GO PAST IT'S LIMITS TO KEEP SERVING HIS MASTER
THIS IS FOR BOTH THE DOG AND THE USER'S MUTUAL SAKE...
I SEE... EVEN DOGS GROW SENILE, LIKE HUMANS...
THAT AREA WAS OUR WALKING COURSE
IF I HAD BEEN MORE ACTIVE AND WENT OUT MORE OFTEN..
DON'T CONDEMN YOURSELF LIKE THIS
FUJITO -KUN..
I'M SURE THAT'S WHAT VICTOR WOULD SAY
IT SAYS HERE THAT 4 DAYS AGO AT THAT BUS STOP, A CORPSE OF A DOG WHO DIED IN SENILITY WAS REPORTED TO THE HEALTH CENTER
HE WALKED SEVERAL TENS OF KILO-METERS FROM CHIBA
HE CAME FROM SO FAR AWAY...

AND, LOOK..
DIDN'T HE SAY THAT HE'LL COME BACK ONE DAY
..YES.. THAT'S RIGHT...
WHEN THE TIME COMES
I'LL DEFINITELY FIND YOU

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TVの心霊特番に出て有名になった風斗は、
幼なじみの"引きこもり少年"の救出を依頼されるが…。
新世紀を疾駆する癒し系コミックの金字塔!!